

Housing Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6408

AN ACT REQUIRING HOUSING AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE VOTER

Title: REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS TO PROSPECTIVE TENANTS.

Vote Date: 3/11/2021

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/18/2021

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Brandon McGee

REASONS FOR BILL:

Voting is an essential part of a democracy. Historically, low income communities have experienced barriers in accessing the polls. According to Data for Progress, even when people living in public housing are registered voters, they are fourteen percent less likely to vote compared to other voters.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Executive Director of CHRO Tanya Hughes- **Supports** this bill in written testimony because according to the director, it is an important step in increasing access to voting.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Interim Senior Policy counsel for the ACLU-CT Kelly McConney Moore- **Supports** this bill in written testimony saying the bill would help end systemic inequities and barriers to voting among low income communities and racial minorities.

Raphael Poldosky of Connecticut Legal Services Advancing Justice- **Supports** this bill in written testimony because voting is an essential part of democracy and since voting is by place of residence, it would make sense that registration be encouraged at the location where each voter lives.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Chairman of non-profit organization Fight Voter Fraud, Inc Dominic Rapini- **Opposes** this bill in written testimony saying that access to voting is not an issue and this bill would increase fraud.

CEO of Fight Voter Fraud, Inc Linda Szykowitz- **Opposes** this bill in written testimony saying that access to voting is not an issue and this bill would increase fraud.

Robert Jackson- **Opposes** this bill in written testimony because in his belief most applicants are not informed on state issues.

Reported by: Eddie Aledia

Date: 3/24/21