Dear Legislators:

My name is Charon Smalls and I reside in Bloomfield, CT. Please allow this email to serve as a testimony in support of EXPANDING ACCESS TO ABSENT BALLOTS.

As a country, we are still experiencing the effects of a global pandemic. As a state, CT has not fully reopened due to the dangers related to COVID-19 and the established social distancing guidelines to combat transmission. An effective absentee ballot process as outlined and pushed, will maintain voting rights for populations especially medically fragile to COVID-19.

This policy and procedure should be permanently established and adopted into the CT State Constitution in preparation for the November 2020 elections due to the strong likelihood of remaining medical dangers of COVID-19, and beyond to increase voter engagement for communities with poor access and turnout because of lack of transportation and medical conditions leading to chronic symptoms.

Thank you for receiving this testimony.

Respectfully,

Charon Smalls Bloomfield Resident/Taxpayer