

Dear Honorable Members of the GAE Committee:

This written testimony is in support of proposed legislation LCO 3576 AAC Absentee Ballot Voting.

Connecticut officials showed appropriate respect for the health and welfare of Connecticut citizens by providing for absentee voting due to Covid-19 for the 2020 primary election.

By changing the Connecticut statute to allow all eligible Connecticut voters the option to vote by absentee ballot lawfully and safely in the general election, Connecticut lawmakers assure that the voice of the people matters in Connecticut.

The legislation should: allow anyone in line for in person voting by 8 pm to cast their vote; allow anyone in line to register and vote by 8 pm to register and vote; and the verification of a final collection of all mail-in and drop-off ballots at 8 pm for counting.

My mother is almost 90 years young and resides in a state which allows for early voting. She safely and independently votes. Connecticut legislators can show leadership, and respect for our vulnerable population and the rights of all voters, by expanding absentee ballot voting and addressing the safe exercise of our eligible citizens' right to vote in the 2020 general election.

Respectfully,
Mary Jo Nosal
Old Lyme, CT