

## Testimony in Support LCO No. 3576 An Act Concerning Absentee Voting at the 2020 State Election and Election Day Registration

## Submitted by, Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate Southern New England Conference United Church of Christ July 21, 2020

Senator Flexer, Representative Fox, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Commitee,

I am Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for the Southern New England Conference United Church of Christ and I am writing today in support of LCO No. 3576 An Act Concerning Absentee Voting at the 2020 State Election and Election Day Registration.

I am writing on behalf of the 614 congregations and more than 120,000 people in our state's churches. In fact, the United Church of Christ (UCC) is the largest Protestant denomination in Connecticut. Nationally, the UCC has more than 5,700 congregations with nearly 1 million members. In 1987 the assembled delegates and ministers of the historic Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ met and voted on a Resolution that called upon the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ to affirm the responsibility fo all Christians to vote and encourage church members, though education and other appropriate means to be responsible informed voters in all elections.

All of God's children deserve an opportunity to vote without the fear of their health being jeoportized, therefore we encourage the bill to also include elections in 2021 since COVID 19 could still be with us then.

Thank you for your work and the opportunity to supply written testimony for this bill.

Blessings,

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