

Testimony in Support of *“An Act Concerning (ACC) Absentee Voting at the 2020 State Election and Election Day Registration” (LCO #3576)*

FROM: Stephanie B. Ross, 50 Terra Nova Circle, Westport, CT 06880
To Government Administration and Elections Committee:

RE: Support of *“An Act Concerning (ACC) Absentee Voting at the 2020 State Election and Election Day Registration” (LCO #3576)*

I encourage you to vote in support of this act. The bill will permit any eligible voter to vote by absentee ballot in November because the “sickness of COVID” could easily continue to threaten their health.

I am 80 years old and have voted every year since I was of age to vote. I am in the “very vulnerable age group” and hence am super careful now as to where I go and how I “see” people. I think I am the “Queen of Social Distancing.” For example, I have my groceries delivered and left at my door. I curbside “pick up” medicines and other necessary items. For exercise I walk by myself at times and places where I may be distanced from other people. I “see” my neighbors at a distance. I do not go anywhere where there is a possibility of people being near me. I have Tele health visits where possible with my healthcare providers. I wear a mask when outside.

My husband was too ill and too frail to vote at the polls in the last election held during his life. He used an absentee ballot to vote. The sense of pride of being able to execute the voting privilege helped his morale and made him feel a part of society at time when other life factors were wearing him down.

The Secretary of State is has experience and can ensure the absentee ballots are used in the least costly way, although making voting possible supersedes cost consideration. I have researched the safety of using absentee ballots. There have been no major or minor breeches leading to voter fraud. Even Chris Wallace of FOX News has researched this issue and has reached the same conclusion.

There are many other residents in my vulnerable category. Please do not force us or any other citizen to choose between voting safety and our health.

Thank you for our consideration.