

Dear Members of the Committee,

I strongly urge that the four words “such elector’s or person’s” be removed from the bill. Covid19 shows no sign of disappearing, and while the state of Connecticut has gotten the virus under control for now, state after state has seen this disease reappear. 2021 may well see special elections. We have no idea where we will be four months from now, six months from now. Even if the Coronavirus is under control, people should still be able to evaluate whether sickness in the community, sickness in their family, their own underlying health conditions make it potentially unsafe for them to vote in person. Connecticut is one of the few Democratic states that does not allow voters to simply choose to vote absentee without a specific reason. This change would go a considerable way to bringing Connecticut into line with other states. Utah, Hawaii, Colorado and Oregon, which vote entirely by mail, show that we can do this safely and securely.

Sincerely,

Susannah Wood
Norfolk CT