

**Testimony SUPPORTING Continuation of Emergency Declaration & Limited Executive Orders**

**Informational Hearing – Tuesday February 8, 2022 at 9AM**

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for continuing the Emergency Declarations and Limited Executive Orders related to COVID.

These orders are critical to protecting us through this dangerous and rapidly changing pandemic. Numbers of infections are currently declining. But, as we know, COVID 19 is a clear and present danger to the public health and variants are an ongoing concern. The Governor needs to have the ability to act quickly in response to the changing situation.

It is particularly important that we protect the right to vote by absentee ballot due to COVID concerns. Without the ability to vote absentee, many Connecticut seniors and individuals with underlying medical conditions will be forced to choose between voting and their safety. This is both unacceptable and unnecessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Arlene Murphy

Fairfield, CT