



Legislative Testimony
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**Written Testimony Supporting House Bill 5844,
An Act Requiring Housing Authorities to Provide Voter
Registration Applications to Prospective Tenants**

Senator Bradley, Representative McGee, and distinguished members of the Housing Committee:

My name is David McGuire, and I am executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut (ACLU-CT). I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 5844, An Act Requiring Housing Authorities to Provide Voter Registration Applications to Prospective Tenants.

The right to vote is a fundamental part of America's democracy, and registering to vote should be a task that is simple to complete. Requiring housing authorities to provide voter registration applications to prospective tenants strengthens our democracy by giving more people access to the materials they need to become registered voters. Some of these people may not have another readily-accessible opportunity to register to vote. This would increase the number of registered voters in Connecticut and would most likely increase voter participation in elections. Thus, more people would have the chance to make their voices heard. As an organization committed to the rights and freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution, the ACLU of Connecticut strongly supports measures to simplify voter registration to ensure everyone has access to the ballot box.

We urge the committee to support House Bill 5844 to require housing authorities to provide voter registration applications to prospective tenants to increase participation in our democracy.