



Legislative Testimony
765 Asylum Avenue, First Floor
Hartford, CT 06105
860-523-9146
www.acluct.org

Written Testimony Supporting House Bill 5872, An Act Expanding Automatic Application for Voter Registration to Certain State Agencies

Senator Flexer, Representative Fox, Ranking Members Sampson and Mastrofrancesco, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

My name is Kelly McConney Moore, and I am the interim senior policy counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut (ACLU-CT). I am testifying in support of House Bill 5872, An Act Expanding Automatic Application for Voter Registration to Certain State Agencies.

As an organization committed to the liberties guaranteed by our Constitution, the ACLU-CT fully supports a fair voting system to uphold the foundational cornerstone of our democracy: the right to vote. We therefore support the automatic voter registration measures of House Bill 5872, which would provide more people with the opportunity to participate in elections in Connecticut.

Multiple sections of House Bill 5872 allow or require the use of electronic systems to make registering to vote more easily accessible for Connecticut residents. Codifying what is already happening at some state agencies – where they use electronic systems for online voter registration, changing a voter’s address, and notifying people that they have received their applications – benefits everyone. Extending it to even more state agencies multiplies that benefit. The use of electronic systems most significantly impacts people who are vulnerable to disenfranchisement, including people living with disabilities, those who lack transportation, students, and people who have unpredictable work schedules because they may be less likely to be able to visit offices in person.

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. For that reason, we support House Bill 5872 and urge this Committee to do the same.