



Legislative Testimony  
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**Written Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 759, An Act Concerning Gender  
Neutrality in the State Constitution**

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 submitting this testimony in support of Senate Bill 759, An Act Concerning Gender Neutrality in the State Constitution.

The ACLU-CT is committed to ending discrimination against people of marginalized genders, including women, trans people, and gender non-conforming people. When it comes to fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Connecticut, we believe that those rights are not just for the people who use the “he/him/his” pronouns throughout the Constitution, but for everyone. While modern courts have generally agreed that the male usage in the Constitution is not a bar to rights for people who are not men, that does not mean we should stop striving for a more inclusive Constitution. To the contrary, the state Constitution is the document that fundamentally aims to “define, secure, and perpetuate the liberties, rights and privileges” of the people of Connecticut. We should reflect everyone, of all genders, in this esteemed document. Accordingly, we support the goal of Senate Bill 759 to create a task force to recommend revisions to the Constitution of Connecticut that would preserve the current meaning while replacing gendered language with language that affirms the rights and equality of people of all genders.<sup>1</sup> We encourage this Committee to support this effort as well.

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<sup>1</sup> Since the purpose of Senate Bill 759 is to affirm that all people are included in the state Constitution, we suggest that the task force’s second mandate be to make language change recommendations to reiterate the equality of all people – not just citizens – before the law.