

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH CHANGES OF

HB 6659 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR.

## February 14, 2023

**To:** Honored Co-Chairs Sen. Osten and Rep. Walker, Vice Chairs Sen. Hartley, Rep. Exum, and Rep. Paris, Ranking Members Sen. Berthel and Rep. Nuccio, Distinguished Members of the Appropriations Committee

**From:** Julianna Larue, Climate Policy and Outreach Coordinator, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of CTLCV, thank you for the opportunity to comment in support with changes of **HB 6659** that will make voting fair, and accessible with appropriate funding.

This legislation will be a unique opportunity to provide new tools to our towns and cities to make voting accessible to everybody.

Connecticut needs to guarantee fairness in access by offsetting the costs of implementing early voting for any municipality facing economic hardship. Implementing early voting means Connecticut will need to adopt a budget to pay election officials, educate and communicate with voters about this access, and effectively execute our elections. Having adequate funding to successfully implement early voting is critical to ensure the fairness of our election process.

CTLCV urges you to support 6659 with changes to ensure funding for early voting. The passage of this bill will assure the results of the constitutional amendment of early voting passed on election day has the necessary funding for successful implementation. Passage of funding for early voting will benefit our entire state. Thank you.

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