



Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1017: An Act Concerning Election Administration

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut

March 10, 2021

Chairs and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 1017: An Act Concerning Election Administration.

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut's mission is to serve as a catalyst that engages residents and communities in shaping a democratic health system that provides universal access to quality, affordable, equitable health care and promotes health in Connecticut. We believe that health care is a fundamental right and that our work is part of a broader movement for social and economic justice. Part of that broader movement for social and economic justice is an inclusive democracy, where everyone is able to exercise their right to vote without barriers.

We are submitting testimony specifically supporting the proposal to make permanent the use of absentee ballot drop boxes initially used during the 2020 election cycle, due to the pandemic. The absentee ballot drop boxes provide another avenue for voters to submit their ballot, aside from the mail. This means that if a voter is concerned that their vote will not arrive in time, they can simply drop the ballot in the ballot box and their vote will be counted.

We believe that an important aspect of this proposal is that it facilitates the counting of every vote cast in an election. Everyone deserves for their vote to count in every single election, and every avenue to increase the ease of voting should be pursued. We hope you support this bill. Thank you for your time.

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut's mission is to serve as a catalyst that engages residents and communities in shaping a democratic health system that provides universal access to quality, affordable, equitable health care and promotes health in Connecticut. We believe that health care is a fundamental right and that our work is part of a broader movement for social and economic justice.