

**INTRODUCED BY**  
**Councilmember James Sanchez**  
**Council President Maly Rosado**  
**Majority Leader TJ Clarke II**  
**Councilman Nick Lebron**  
**Councilwoman Marilyn E. Rossetti**

**COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL**  
**City of Hartford, May 10,2021**

**REPLACEMENT #1**

**WHEREAS**, the legislature of the State of Connecticut is presently in session, and

**WHEREAS**, there are actions which can be taken by the legislature which can be of a direct benefit to the residents of the City of Hartford, and

**WHEREAS**, as the duly elected legislative body of the City of Hartford, the Court of Common Council owes a duty to the residents of Hartford to promote such legislative changes at the state level as the Council deems a priority, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hartford is committed to ensuring all residents who are eligible to vote have equal opportunities to access and cast their ballots, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hartford is interested in reducing the barriers certain residents face in casting their ballots privately, independently, and in a timely manner, such as voters with disabilities, overseas citizens, and active duty military, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hartford recognizes that voters with vision impairments and other print disabilities may be unable to independently and privately vote with a paper ballot, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hartford recognizes that active duty military and overseas citizen voters may lack access to adequate mail services to timely receive, vote, and return ballots by mail, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hartford is also interested in creating more voting options for senior residents seeking alternative methods of receiving and casting their ballots due to health or mobility concerns, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hartford desires to expand voting options and accessibility for all residents who are eligible to vote while preserving the integrity of its election systems and the security of ballots cast by its residents,

**WHEREAS**, existing electronic and mobile ballot return systems have security measures in place to secure the vote such as voter authentication and authorization, protocols to anticipate,

detect, and prevent security threats on both the front- and back-ends, and support post-election vote integrity audits, and

**WHEREAS**, electronic and mobile services with protective firewalls and WAF (web application firewall) requiring personal and sensitive information now exists such as DMV (registration & license renewal, pay fees, etc.), on Line banking (pay bills online, transfer money, lower overhead fees, etc.), <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do> online (Registration to vote, change name & address, etc.), online investing Stock & ETF, Trading, buying & selling,

**WHEREAS**, electronic and mobile ballot return has been successfully piloted in 18 jurisdictions in the states of Colorado, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, Washington, and West Virginia with no evidence of ballots having been manipulated or tampered with, now therefore be it, [\[https://mobilevoting.org/keeping-votes-secure \]](https://mobilevoting.org/keeping-votes-secure)

**RESOLVED**, that the City of Hartford supports passage of legislation by the legislature of the State of Connecticut during the present legislative session to allow municipalities the opportunity to provide a system for the electronic and mobile return of a ballot via smartphone, tablet, or other electronic device by any person that is described as an absentee elector as defined by the Uniformed And Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, or as a person with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**RESOLVED**, that the Hartford Legislative Delegation consisting of Representatives Matt Ritter, Minnie Gonzalez, Julio Concepcion, Brandon McGee, Edwin Vargas, and Joshua Hall, and State Senators John Fonfara and Doug McCrory, be advised of these legislative priorities; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Governor and legislature of the State of Connecticut be advised of these priorities.