

Denise Stetkis  
Town of Canaan

To the committee considering LD208. I have been a Town Clerk going on 13 years. As the supervisor of elections I have implemented enough elections to recognize that voters have many convenient ways to request absentee ballots. They have 3 months to request a ballot for themselves or an immediate family member; 30 days to vote in person. They have many options to request a ballot, written application, electronic, telephone, and in person. It is unfair to take away the relief of stress the 3 day special circumstance period provides to Clerks. Those 3 days we are able to focus on the accurate recording of absentee's in the central voter system; implement early processing and prepare for election day. If the reason for removing the 3 days is to give voters more time to get an absentee without a special circumstance... I would suggest "more time" is not as needed on the voters end but is essential on the Clerk's end. Deadlines are part of life and being a responsible adult. If voting is important, a voter will find a way to vote.