

Dear NAME,

Reproductive justice, abortion care, and gender affirming care advocates: Make Your Voice Heard!

In the past few weeks, many of you have asked us, "What can I do?"

Here it is: We need your written or in-person testimony as soon as possible. It's easy and fun!

The ACLU of CT supports a resolution for a constitutional amendment we call **The Equality Amendment.** Passing S.J. No. 35 takes 75% votes in both chambers. This would add a question to your next ballot that — if it voters passed with a majority of the votes — would **enshrine the right to reproductive care, abortion care, and gender-affirming care in the state constitution.** 

S.J. No. 35: Resolution Proposing a State Constitutional Amendment Concerning Discrimination on the Basis of Sex Under the Equal Protection Clause.

# **WE NEED YOUR TESTIMONY**

#### **Speaking in Person or by Zoom:**

You must register to testify by Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 3:00 PM.

## **Written Testimony:**

Please submit written testimony using this On-line Testimony Submission Form.

#### **DETAILS**

The General Assembly's Government Administration & Elections Committee meeting is THIS Friday, Feb. 7th, 2025.

**Time:** 12:00 pm

Place: Room 2B of the Legislative Office Building

Online: Zoom (register to speak) and YouTube Live (watch without registration)

**Meeting Agenda** 

**Read Submitted Testimony & See Speaker Orders** 

CT General Assembly's **Guide to Testifying** 

The speaker order will be posted on the day before the hearing on the CT General Assembly website at 6:00 pm. The speaker order will be posted on the day before the hearing on the CT General Assembly website after the 3:00 pm deadline has passed. Any written testimony submitted before the meeting will be published in time for the hearing.

### **DRAFT TESTIMONY**

Dear Committee Chairs Representative Blumenthal and Senator Flexer, Ranking Members Representative Mastrofrancesco and Senator Sampson, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee,

My name is [NAME], and I am a resident of [PLACE].

I write today in support of S.J. No. 35.

[Tell your story in 1-5 sentences. Add a sentence about any advocacy or communities you represent.]

#### **Example:**

I'm a lesbian mom who has needed reproductive care to plan my family. I needed abortion care in order to have the healthy, happy family I have today. If I had been denied that care, I wouldn't be able to walk and I wouldn't have had my second baby. I am also an advocate who cares about gender affirming care for anyone, including trans people. These rights were necessary for my survival, and should equal protection explicitly including these rights needs to be in the state constitution. It will save lives.

[Add information about why you support this constitutional amendment and why you felt the need to testify. Connect your personal story to the impact.]

## **Example:**

I believe that everyone should enjoy equal protection under the law, which is guaranteed to us by the 14th amendment of the U.S. constitution, and by the Connecticut constitution. Attacks on women, people needing reproductive care, trans people, and LGBTQIA+ people who access health care make this amendment a necessity. As a lesbian, a mother, and a family member of a trans person, I believe it's imperative the people of Connecticut have the opportunity to expand our rights and protections.

Voting on this in the 2026 election adds an element of power and choice, and I have faith in the people

[Thank the committee and urge passage.]
Example:
Thank you for your consideration and your vote for S.J. No. 35. History is watching us.
[Please also send your testimony to your state representative and state senator. Find your representatives here: <a href="https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp">https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/menu/cgafindleg.asp</a> ]

of Connecticut to vote their conscience on this issue.