

34th District Resolution Form

Title: Moratorium on use of Computerized Voting Machines

WHEREAS, a properly functioning election system should be accurate and reliable, and designed in a manner that reduces the possibility of fraud to every extent possible.

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland security issued a Cyber Alert prior to the 2004 election, warning that votes can be “modified remotely” via an “undocumented backdoor” in central tabulator software.

WHEREAS, the federal Government Accounting Office issued a 107 page report in September 2005 in response to “more than 57,000 complaints” following the 2004 Presidential election (GAO-05-956)(hereinafter “Report”); and

WHEREAS, the Report confirmed that, some electronic voting machines “did not encrypt cast ballots or system audit logs, thus making it possible to alter them without detection.” In other words, the GAO confirmed that electronic voting machines provided an open door to flip entire vote count; and

WHEREAS, the Report confirmed that “it is easy to alter a file defining how a ballot appears, making it possible for someone to vote for one candidate and actually be recorded as voting for an entirely different candidate;” and

WHEREAS, following the 2004 Presidential election sworn statements and affidavits assert that this did happen in Ohio and other states, including Washington state; and

WHEREAS, the Report confirmed that is readily possible to “falsify election results without leaving any evidence of such an action by using altered memory cards” can easily be done; and

WHEREAS, as further proof of the above statement, non-partisan, non-profit consumer protection advocate Black Box Voting (BBV) proved the existence of said security flaw in December, 2005 wherein the memory cards on Diebold optical scanning machines contained executable code, contrary to prior statements of the vendor; and

WHEREAS, as a result of said security flaw a representative of BBV was able to “hack” the vote data by altering the executable code and in doing so flipped the vote from one candidate to the other; and

WHEREAS, this hack was proved to be undetectable; and

WHEREAS, this hack further proved that malicious manipulation of the code contained on memory cards could undetectably alter final vote data, audit logs and summary reports; and

WHEREAS, this hack proved conclusively that memory cards can be hacked in a manner that renders the election results completely unreliable; and

WHEREAS, said security flaw exists on all Diebold optical scanners and touch screen machines, and possibly on machines by other vendors as well; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the computerized voting machines presently used in the state of Washington and around the country fail to adequately protect the integrity of the election results. Therefore we affirm that the electronic voting machines are not secure, reliable, or accurate

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the responsibility of election officials to demonstrate that all election processes are transparent, secure, accurate and reliable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following reform platform be sent to the WSDCC for inclusion in the state party platform and where relevant, forwarded to the DNC to be incorporated into the national platform:

- 1) That the state of Washington immediately places a moratorium on the use of electronic voting machines. unless and until all security issues can be resolved.
- 2) That all security, accuracy and reliability issues be resolved.
- 3) That Washington State election officials prove conclusively to the electorate that the above issues have been resolved.

Submitted to the 36th Legislative District Caucus for consideration on March 4, 2006 by
Mary Robinson, PCO (1436), 206-913-9188. Result _____, Date _____

Outcome – passed, rejected, referred back to proposing organization for clarifications or revisions on
_____ (date).

Sources

<http://www.bradblog.com/archives/00001838.htm>

www.votersunite.org

www.blackboxvoting.org

GAO Report, issued September 2005, GAO-05-956

http://www.votetrustusa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=645&Itemid=26