A Resolution

Arizona Democratic Party State Meeting Sunday, April 29, 2007
Submitted by Arizona Democratic Party-Election Integrity Committee (ADP-EIC)

WHEREAS: The Arizona Democratic Party and its Election Integrity Committee "ADP-EIC" are actively working for the fundamental right of every American citizen to vote and to have each vote counted as intended in a secure, transparent, impartial, and independently audited election process; and

WHEREAS: ADP EIC members and nationally respected computer voting experts collectively recognize that electronic election systems do not adequately protect the accuracy of election results; and that the election system can be secured only through the full transparency; and

WHEREAS: Arizona and the nation are at a pivotal juncture in the election integrity timeline. It is imperative to act now to protect the integrity of the 2008 election. In light of lessons learned from several years of investigating Arizona primary, general, and non-partisan elections, it is important proposed changes protect the democratic will of the people by increasing election security and integrity

WHEREAS: while it is distressing to acknowledge the wasted money already spent on new direct recording electronic (DRE) voting machines, it would be worse to continue using election equipment that is vulnerable to malfunction, fraud and manipulation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the ADP proposes the following amendments to HR 811 to amend the Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007 (HR 811):

(a) Require the voter-verifiable permanent paper ballot, defined under such Act as the official ballot for audits and recounts, to be also defined as the official ballot for the initial count.

(b) Limit the extension of the Election Assistance Commission under such Act and increase the accountability of the EAC to Congress and the public.

(c) Remove the requirement of such Act for non-existent "text conversion" software as the only method of providing ballot verifiability for people with disabilities; encourage innovations in verification technology for people with special needs.

(d) Increase the disclosure requirement of such Act to include system documentation, change the disclosure requirements for Commercial Off-the- Shelf (COTS) software to be governed by a non-disclosure agreement.

(e) Allow a state oversight body, other than the chief auditor, to manage state audits as defined in such Act.

(f) Provide for an affirmative private right of action to remedy a violation of section 301, 302, 303, or subtitle C of title III.

(g) Require audits defined in such Act to commence immediately after the random selection of audit units

(h) Extend the Internet and wireless connections prohibition of such Act to include all components of all voting systems.

(i) Eliminate the loophole in such Act that allows machine recounts of elections for Federal office.

(j) Allow state audit standards to be more stringent, but not less stringent, than the Federal standard.

(j) Require that mail-in (early or absentee) ballots be subject to the same high audit standards used for precinct-cast ballots.

AND BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that, to protect the democratic will of the people by increasing election security and integrity, the Arizona Democratic Party request our Congressional delegation support the above 11 changes to HR811, adjusted for statutory language as necessary.

Submitted by Dr. Ted Downing meeting ADP-EIC Chair 29 April 2007 to the Arizona State Democratic Party, Phoenix, Arizona