



America's Elections Watchdog Group



## RE: ELECTION INTEGRITY GROUPS RELEASE A "ONE-PAGE CONCEPT PROPOSAL FOR FEDERAL ELECTION REFORM LEGISLATION"

Friday, March 30, 2007. Leaders in four election integrity organizations are delivering a proposal to the Congress calling on the members to sponsor better election reform legislation.

According to leaders of The National Election Data Archive, Black Box Voting, Democracy for New Hampshire, and Citizens' Alliance for Secure Elections, OH, there are serious flaws in current election reform proposals proposed by U.S. Congressman Rush Holt and Senator Bill Nelson (HR 811 & S559) and by Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones and Senator Hillary Clinton (HR1381 & S804).

Some election officials agree. Douglas A. Kellner, Co-Chair of the New York State Board of Elections in a March 20, 2007 email correspondence said: "Congress got it wrong when it passed the Help America Vote Act in 2002 and there is a high probability that HR 811 in its current form could create another form of expensive mischief that could interfere with efficient administration of elections."

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) have also written a joint letter on March 19, 2007 urging members of Congress to oppose HR811/S559.

Yet, federal election reform legislation is critically needed in early 2007 if it is to be in effect in time to assure the accuracy and truth of 2008 federal elections.

Kathy Dopp, President of the National Election Data Archive with help from state and county election officials and other election integrity activists such as Bev Harris, Director of Black Box Voting; Nancy Tobi, Cofounder of Democracy for New Hampshire and Chair, NH Fair Elections Committee; and Phil Fry of Citizens' Alliance for Accurate Secure Elections OH have authored a "One-Page Concept Proposal for Federal Election Reform Legislation". The key ideas of their proposals are 1) citizen oversight of elections, 2) sufficient manual counts of paper ballots to verify the accuracy of election outcomes, 3) prohibit and monitor voter disenfranchisement, and 4) well-planned, long-term improvement of voting systems. They are also recommending that the US Election Assistance Commission be dissolved.

According to Dopp, their "One-Page Concept Proposal for Federal Election Reform Legislation" has more reasonable time frames, enforceable requirements, provisions for citizen oversight, respect of states' rights and flexibility, provides sufficient funding to cover its requirements, and is more cost-efficient and effective than current election reform proposals.

Attached is the "One-Page Concept Proposal for Election Reform Legislation" along with detailed comments. <http://electionarchive.org/ucvInfo/US/EI-FedLegProposal-v2.pdf>

Any feedback on the proposal and any help that you can be in getting this legislation sponsored would be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Dopp".

Kathy Dopp, President of National Election Data Archive

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The flaws in current election reform bills proposed by Holt, Nelson, Clinton, and Tubbs-Jones are discussed in these papers and articles:

"Federal Election Audit Costs" shows that the HR811/S559 and HR1381/S804 election audits would give as low as a 10% probability of detecting outcome-altering vote fraud and yet cost 50% to 94% MORE than an election audit with a 99% success rate, when applied to 2002 and 2004 US House and Senate races.  
<http://electionarchive.org/ucvAnalysis/US/paper-audits/FederalAuditCosts.pdf>

Much of the testimony that has been given before the House Administration Committee on Election Reform is available publicly here: [http://electionarchive.net/docs\\_other/HearingTestimony/](http://electionarchive.net/docs_other/HearingTestimony/)  
or will be posted here: <http://www.cha.house.gov>

Doug Kellner, NYS Board of Elections Co-Chair' comments:  
<http://www.wheresthepaper.org/CommentDouglasAKellner.htm>

Joint letter of National Association of Counties and National Conference of State Legislatures  
[http://electionarchive.net/docs\\_other/HearingTestimony/NCSL-NACCoopposeHoltBill.pdf](http://electionarchive.net/docs_other/HearingTestimony/NCSL-NACCoopposeHoltBill.pdf)

"Fool Me Once: Checking Vote Count Integrity"  
<http://electionarchive.org/ucvAnalysis/US/paper-audits/TierElectionAuditEval.pdf>

DeForest Soaries says that "EAC and Federal efforts for election reform 'A Charade,' 'Travesty!'  
<http://www.ejfi.org/Voting/Voting-6.htm#soaries>

"Why we must not Re-Authorize the EAC"  
[http://electionarchive.net/docs\\_other/EAC-DoNotReauthorize.pdf](http://electionarchive.net/docs_other/EAC-DoNotReauthorize.pdf)

"The US Election Assistance Commission Has Not Done its Job"  
<http://www.votersunite.org/info/TestimonyTheisen03-13-07.pdf>

"Avoid Another HAVA Train Wreck: Software Disclosure Requirements are a Good Long Term Goal but Need to Be Redrafted in Current Federal Election Integrity Legislation."  
[http://electionarchive.net/docs\\_other/dopp/VotingSystemSoftwareDisclosure.pdf](http://electionarchive.net/docs_other/dopp/VotingSystemSoftwareDisclosure.pdf)

David Wagner, computer scientist's testimony on election reform before the House Admin committee:  
[http://electionarchive.net/docs\\_other/HearingTestimony/wagner.pdf](http://electionarchive.net/docs_other/HearingTestimony/wagner.pdf)

"Critical changes are needed to Holt's HR811"  
<http://electionarchive.org/ucvInfo/US/ChangesNeeded2HR811.pdf>

"Holt's HR 811, A Deceptive Boondoggle -- 10 Blunders to Fix" by Bruce O'Dell  
[http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne\\_bruce\\_o\\_070221\\_holt\\_s\\_hr\\_811\\_a\\_dece.htm](http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne_bruce_o_070221_holt_s_hr_811_a_dece.htm)

"What's Wrong with Holt II (HR 811)" by Bev Harris of Black Box Voting  
[http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne\\_bev\\_harr\\_070208\\_what\\_s\\_wrong\\_with\\_ho.htm](http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne_bev_harr_070208_what_s_wrong_with_ho.htm)

"Summary of E-Voting as a Ponzi Scheme" by Nancy Tobi of Democracy for New Hampshire  
<http://www.democracyfornewhampshire.com/node/view/3571> or  
<http://www.democracyfornewhampshire.com/files/PonziSummary.pdf>

"New Version of Holt Bill: A Giant Step Backwards" by Nancy Tobi of Democracy for New Hampshire  
[http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne\\_nancy\\_to\\_070207\\_new\\_version\\_of\\_holt\\_.htm](http://www.opednews.com/articles/opedne_nancy_to_070207_new_version_of_holt_.htm)

HR811 Review by Marian Beddill

<http://noleakybuckets.org/holt811/holt811detail.shtml/>

“Who is Supporting and Who is Opposing Current Election Reform Legislation?”

[http://www.opednews.com/articles/genera\\_kathy\\_do\\_070325\\_who\\_is\\_opposing\\_or\\_s.htm](http://www.opednews.com/articles/genera_kathy_do_070325_who_is_opposing_or_s.htm)

Analysis of the proposed "Count Every Vote" bill (federal legislation)

<http://www.democracyfornewhampshire.com/node/view/3609>

What's wrong with the NEW Holt Bill (HR 811)?

<http://www.democracyfornewhampshire.com/node/view/3572>

Stopping H.R. 550 as written because we can't compromise on democracy

<http://www.democracyfornewhampshire.com/node/view/3084>

Joint Letter to Congress on HR811/S559 of the National Association of Counties and The National Conference of State Legislatures

[http://electionarchive.net/docs\\_other/HearingTestimony/NCSL-NACoopposeHoltBill.pdf](http://electionarchive.net/docs_other/HearingTestimony/NCSL-NACoopposeHoltBill.pdf)