



Convention Resolution Submission

Title of Resolution

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ELECTRONICS IN OUR ELECTION SYSTEM

Summary of Resolution

The United States Constitution guarantees to every State a Republican Form of Government; a constitutional Republican form of local self government where we the people conduct our elections and count our ballots at the precinct level; this is the foundational and most fundamental act of a free people, as power must stay in the precinct, hand counted by the registered stakeholders of those precincts.

Whereas Statements

WHEREAS, the United States and South Dakota herein remain one of the few major democracies in the world that continues to allow computerized vote counting. The use of electronic machines to count, transfer and track votes have proven to be costly, non-transparent and have lost the trust of the public.

WHEREAS, many developed countries such as Germany, Norway, Netherlands, France, Canada, Denmark, Italy, United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Finland and most other countries protect the integrity and trust of their elections with publically observable hand-counting of paper ballots; hand counting ballots in the precincts has become the gold standard for election integrity and low cost.

WHEREAS, elimination of machines will eradicate potential or purposeful programming errors by out-of-state technicians who maintain and program our election machines. Eliminating machines will result in no potential for hacking, no algorithms, no programming updates or out of date virus software issues.

WHEREAS, eliminating machines will remove the chain of custody problem with driving the ballots from each precinct to the central machine counting building where the ballots are tabulated by a machine that is incapable of determining voter intent. Counting should be done in the same place as voting, by voters.

WHEREAS, eliminating machines means no pre-election testing of machines, no foreign electronic parts, no complex manuals, no paper jamming and no costly yearly machine maintenance and replacement costs.

WHEREAS, cost studies prove a hand count election costs one tenth to one fourth of what it costs to run a machine count election. Also there are no election costs in a non-election year for hand counting ballots but there are yearly costs for the machines, such as, costs for firmware licenses, software updates and warranties. Hand counting ballots employs local citizens and money spent on the elections stays in the county instead of going out of state to a company with foreign investors.

Therefore Statements

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the ability of our government to carry out fair, trustworthy and transparent elections has been the cornerstone of our Constitutional Republic since our founding. To help protect our election process the South Dakota Republican Party recognizes the many inherent transparency and integrity problems with the use of machines as part of our election system. Furthermore, the party requires all executive and legislative branches of all state and local governments, the attorney general and all states attorneys to abide by their oaths of office and uphold and strictly enforce South Dakota's existing statutes involving fair elections and strongly urges the elimination of electronic machines involved with counting votes or signing in voters on election day.

Conclusion

Supporting Document(s)

Members Who Also Support This Resolution

Dave Spier, Chairman of Charles Mix County Republican Party; Jolene Stewart, Vice Chairman of Charles Mix Republican Party.

Confirmation

✓ I affirm I am an active, registered Republican in the State of South Dakota.

Your Name

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Convention Resolution Submission (continued)

Role / Title

Other

County

Charles Mix

Organization