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Testimony - H.B. No. 5888
AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE OPTICAL SCAN VOTING SYSTEM.
GAE Public Hearing of March 12, 2008

Committee Members,

My Name is Bill Bunnell, a resident of Madison.
I speak today in “conditional” support of HB No. 5888.

The “conditions” outlined below are offered as elements that I urge you to review for incorporation in the final version of this important legislation.

A Pre-Election Mandatory **EYE EXAM**

The accuracy of the vote totals reported by CT’s AccuVote Tabulators at this November’s Election will depend on how well the 64 pairs of “eyes” built into the Diebold Accuvote “see” the inked marks made by each voter - in privacy - on the blank paper ballot they had been issued together with a mandated “secrecy sleeve.

To be sure that each voter’s secret vote is accurately read and counted, it is urged that the GAE require a pre-election “**Eye Exam**” for each Tabulator that will be used in a CT election.

Available Diebold documentation describes an “*Eye Exam*” routine that is 1 (one) of a suite of 9 - built-in - standard Diagnostic tests that can be run locally on each unit. Possibly by resident CT certified Tabulator technicians as part of a standard CT Preventive Maintenance program.

Tabulator AUDIT LOGS

Again, as extracted from public Diebold documents, the following statements are recommended to the GAE for consideration in developing a requirement for the use of the AccuVote’s resident computer **Audit Logs**.

As a standard printed post-election report, the **Audit Logs** should be considered as a required part of the record of any CT election.

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Diebold in late 2006 spoke as follows to the New York City Board of Elections,

*“DESI (aka Diebold Election Systems Inc.) provides the most complete set of **Audit Logs** of any Optical Scan vendor including an extensive password protected audit trail and security system. All user actions are stored in an audit log.”*

It goes on to elaborate,

“DESI’s AccuVote-OS and the GEMS host software both produce comprehensive printed audit reports of all election functions performed on the system during the period of use.”

As with the Diagnostic Tests described above, the production of **Audit Log Reports** are part of the AccuVote’s standard resident software capabilities.

It should also be noted that both the resident Diagnostic tests and Audit Log Reports are required by applicable federal voting standards. The applicable state contract (DAS # 06PSX0057) requires that these capabilities be provided in the AccuVote Tabulators delivered to the State of Connecticut.

Those capabilities are resident in the AccuVotes, yet identification of what they provide, and how they are to be used have yet to be incorporated in any documentation provided by the CT SOTS to local election officials.

The Audit Log Reports may contribute to a more cost effective and efficient Post Election Audit Program.

The GAE hopefully will opt to request the SOTS to evaluate the need for the Audit Logs Report, as well as the Preventive Maintenance Program.

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