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Testimony of
State Representative Al Adinolfi

Before the GAE Committee
In support of **Raised Bill 5505**

February 25, 2008

Good morning Chairman Caruso, Chairwoman Slossberg and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee. I am here to speak in full support of mandatory electronic filing of campaign finance reports upon passage of this bill and not until 12/31/2008

Electronic filing will go a long way of stopping inaccurate reporting. If every one has to file electronically it will be very easy to audit and track down improper contributions and expenses. It will make it easy to track down donations that were made by organizations that were not claimed on an individual candidate's form. It is as simple as typing in a name or organization and every donation that individual made will be brought up.

With electronic filing everyone will be on an even playing field. My campaign committee was the first to file electronically on the newly designed electronic filing system. There were a few start up problems that were fixed almost immediately. We found the system user friendly, very accurate and it took away the need for duplicating files and entering data by hand. The system keeps an ongoing record of all campaign income and expenditures.

One does not need to be a computer expert to use the system. Believe me when I say, if I can do it so can anyone else as well, organizations and PACs can easily use the system.

My only problem with this bill is that it does not make everyone use it on their next filing date. The most exiting experience that I had with electronic filing was the quick response from the elections enforcement staff when I needed help.

Please implement the electronic filing portion of this bill as soon as possible.

Thank you for listening to me and would be happy to answer any questions.