



WESTPORT CONNECTICUT

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

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February 24, 2012

To the Honorable Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

Please accept into testimony the following regarding S. B. No. 213, AN ACT CONCERNING INTERNET ACCESS FOR REGISTRARS OF VOTERS:

Objection:

S. B. No. 213 prescribes a particular form of communication with the Secretary of the State's office; that being internet access and the ability to communicate using electronic mail.

Technology is advancing at a rapid pace. Technological obsolescence is a now fact of everyday living. I do not believe that it is good policy to legislate a particular form of technology that may become obsolete, requiring additional legislation to undo that which has become irrelevant.

Preference:

I would prefer that the legislation be changed as follows:

Change: "may access the Internet and correspond with the Secretary of the State using electronic mail."

To: "have the technological capability to communicate with the Secretary of the State using current technological means as prescribed by the Secretary of the State."

Background:

There are currently references in the Election Laws which pertain to the old lever voting machine usage which we have not yet been able to remove. In the future, electronic mail may become obsolete as well (there may be an "app" for that, or something that hasn't been contemplated may become available).

Respectfully submitted,
Marla J. Cowden
Westport Democratic Registrar of Voters