



Judith A Beaudreau
E-mail: JudithBeaudreau@gmail.com
Cell: 860-670-2159

TOWN OF VERNON

375 Hartford Turnpike # 117, Vernon, CT 06066

Office: (860) 896-2376

Fax: (860) 896-2379

www.vernonelections.org

Election Division
Registrars of Voters
Election Administrators

Senator Musto, Representative Julita & Members of the GAE

RHB 6428 AA Enabling Towns To Check Voters In Electronically

My Name is Judith Beaudreau; I am an Election Administrator / Registrar of Voters for the Town of Vernon, CT. I would like to thank the committee for raising this wonderful bill. For the last 2 years I have been doing a demo of Electronic Check Off list at the polling places in Vernon. The last 2 years have been a challenge with disasters during Election time and Election Day. In 2011 Vernon was without electricity - phones - lights - internet - food - gas etc for 16 days. Than 2012 we had hurricane Sandi.

But despite these disasters I managed to demo the electronic poll books. 2011 with the help of generators and reducing polling place I managed to run on stand alone laptops. In 2012 we used the internet and things ran more smoothly. I did however, both paper and computer check off. I have to tell you that all of my Official Checkers - Ballot Clerks and Tabulator Tenders are 16 & 17 year olds. They are excellent workers. They can see & hear! I have noticed that even thou the younger workers are able to hear and see we have less errors with the electronic check off than the paper. Maybe because it is a computer, or maybe it is more fun to use the computer. But at the end of the night when they are trying to total, the computer is instant. It is instant all day. I can send to HQ's on both sides who has voted to the minute and when I have to input into the computer who has voted after the Election it is just and up load rather than having to input one voter at a time. It is time consuming and tedious office time to do manually one voter at a time. And believe I make errors. The electronic check off is more accurate than me hand doing this. It also makes Election data available sooner after Election. This is that Technology that other states are using. It speeds the process and only allows a voter to be check off once. Errors made can be corrected immediatly. It is also a source of communication from my polling places to my office. Thus cutting down the costs of phone lines and also making phone lines in my office more available to the voters rather than the polling places.

I would like to offer some substitute language

Sec. 9-234. Presence of registrars OF VOTERS AND OFFICAL Checkers. Each registrarS OF VOTERS shall be present during the taking of the vote at any regular or special state or municipal election in his THEIR town or district. The assistants OFFICIAL CHECKERS in their respective districts shall, when requested by either THE RegistrarS OF VOTERS, be present at the taking of any such vote and discharge the duties of Registrars OF VOTERS. Each RegistrarS

OF VOTERS shall appoint some suitable person AN OFFICIAL CHECKER to check the list MANUALLY ON PAPER OR ELECTRONICALLY, IF AVALIBILE in each district, unless the municipality has established two shifts for election officials under the provisions of section 9-258a, in which case each such registrarS OF VOTERS shall appoint one such person AN OFFICIAL CHECKER for each district for each shift. Each such person, who is so appointed OFFICIAL checker, shall check the name of each elector thereon when he THE ELECTOR offers his THEIR vote, and no voting-machine TABULATOR tender shall permit any vote to be cast upon the voting TABULATOR machine until the name has been so checked.

Sec. 9-261. Process of voting. (a) In each primary, election or referendum, when an elector has entered the polling place, the elector shall announce the elector's street address, if any, and the elector's name to the official checkers in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all the election officials present to hear the same. Each elector who registered to vote by mail for the first time on or after January 1, 2003, and has a "mark" next to the elector's name on the official registry list, as required by section 9-23r, shall present to the official checkers, before the elector votes, either a current and valid photo identification that shows the elector's name and address or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name and address of the elector. Each other elector shall (1) present to the official checkers the elector's Social Security card or any other preprinted form of identification which shows the elector's name and either the elector's address, signature or photograph, or (2) on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, write the elector's residential address and date of birth, print the elector's name and sign a statement under penalty of false statement that the elector is the elector whose name appears on the official checklist. Such form shall clearly state the penalty of false statement. A separate such form shall be used for each elector. If the elector presents a preprinted form of identification under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the official checkers shall check the name of such elector on the official checklist, MANUALLY ON PAPER OR ELECTRONICALLY, IF AVALIBILE. If the elector completes the form under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the registrarS of voters or the assistant registrarS of voters, as the case may be, shall examine the information on such form and either instruct the official checkers to check the name of such elector on the official checklist, MANUALLY ON PAPER OR ELECTRONICALLY, IF AVALIBILE or notify the elector that the form is incomplete or inaccurate.

(b) In the event that an elector is present at the polling place but is unable to gain access to the polling place due to a temporary incapacity, the elector may request that the ballot be brought to him or her. The registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall take such ballot, along with a privacy sleeve to such elector. The elector shall show identification, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The elector shall forthwith mark the ballot in the presence of the election officials in such manner that the election officials shall not know how the ballot is marked. The elector shall place the ballot in the privacy sleeve. The election officials shall mark the elector's name on the official voter list MANUALLY ON PAPER OR ELECTRONICALLY, IF AVALIBILE as having voted IN PERSON and deliver such ballot and privacy sleeve to the voting tabulator where such ballot shall be placed into the tabulator, by the election officials, for counting. The moderator shall record such activity in the moderator's diary, BUT NOT IDENTIFYING SUCH ELECTOR BY NAME.

(c) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote, pursuant to section 9-431, an unaffiliated elector shall also announce to the separate table of the official checkers for unaffiliated electors the party in whose

primary the elector chooses to vote and the official checkers shall note such party when checking such elector's name on the checklist MANUALLY ON PAPER OR ELECTRONICALLY, IF AVAILABLE, of unaffiliated electors, provided such choice shall not alter the elector's unaffiliated status.

(d) In each polling place in which two or more parties are holding primaries in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote or in which one party is holding a primary in which unaffiliated electors are authorized to vote for some but not all offices to be contested at the primary, the official checkers shall give to each elector checked MANUALLY ON PAPER OR ELECTRONICALLY, IF AVAILABLE a receipt provided by the registrar of voters, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, specifying either (1) the party with which he THE ELECTOR is enrolled, if any, or (2) in the case of an unaffiliated elector, the party in whose primary he THE ELECTOR has so chosen to vote, and whether he THE ELECTOR is authorized to vote for only a partial ballot.

(e) If not challenged by anyone lawfully present in the polling place, the elector shall be permitted to pass to the separated area to receive the ballot. The elector shall give any receipt the elector has received to a ballot clerk who shall give the elector a ballot to vote only in the primary of the party specified by the receipt. The elector shall be permitted into the voting booth AREA, and shall then register his or her vote in secret. Having voted, the elector shall immediately exit the voting booth AREA and deposit the ballot in the voting tabulator and leave the room. No elector shall remain within the voting booth AREA longer than the time necessary to complete the ballot, and, if the elector refuses to leave such booth after completing the ballot, the elector shall at once be removed by the election officials upon order of the moderator. Not more than one elector at a time shall be permitted to be within the enclosed space which the elector occupies while the elector completes his or her ballot, provided an elector may be accompanied within such enclosed space by one or more children who are fifteen years of age or younger and supervised by the elector, if the elector is the parent or legal guardian of such children. ~~At least two additional electors, whose next turn it is to vote shall be permitted in the polling area for the purpose of receiving a ballot.~~ If any elector, after entering the voting booth AREA, asks for further instruction concerning the manner of voting, the election officials shall give such instructions or directions to the elector; but no election official instructing or assisting an elector, except as provided in section 9-264, shall look at the ballot in such a way as to see the elector's markings or in any manner seek to influence any such elector in the casting of the elector's vote.

Sec. 9-307. Certificate of OFFICIAL check lists. Immediately after the polls are closed, the official checkers, appointed under the provisions of section 9-234, shall make and deliver to the moderator a certificate, ~~in duplicate,~~ stating the whole number of names on the registry list or enrollment list including, if applicable, unaffiliated electors authorized under section 9-431 to vote in the primary, and the number checked as having voted in that election or primary. For the purpose of computing the whole number of names on the registry list, the lists of persons who have applied for ~~presidential or overseas~~ ballots prepared in accordance with section 9-158h shall be included. Thereupon the registrars OF VOTERS AND THE HEAD MODERATOR ~~or assistant registrars as the case may be,~~ acting at the respective polls, shall FILE write and sign with ink, ~~on the list or lists so used and checked,~~ a certificate of the whole number of names registered thereon eligible to vote in the election or primary and the number checked as having voted in that election or primary, and deposit SUCH CERTIFICATE it in the office of the municipal clerk of their town on or before the following day. The municipal clerk shall carefully

preserve the same on file, with the marks on it without alteration, for public inspection, and shall immediately enter a certified copy of such certificate on the town records. Subject to the provisions of section 7-109, IF A MANUAL CHECK LIST IS USED the municipal clerk REGISTRARS OF VOTERS may destroy any voting check list four years after the date upon which it was used. IF ELECTRONICALLY, DONE SUCH LIST SHALL BE AVAILIBLE FROM THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS OFFICE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ON REQUEST, AT LEAST FOUR YEARS AFTER THE DATE UPON WHICH IT WAS USED: The moderator shall place one of the duplicate certificates which he received from the official checkers in the voting machine together with the moderator's return provided for in sections 9-259 and 9-310 and shall then lock the machine as provided in section 9-310, and he shall deposit the other of such duplicate certificates in the office of the municipal clerk on or before the following day.