

**Prepared Remarks H.B. 5480, H.B. 5492, S.B. 348
Government Administration and Elections Committee
Testimony – March 10, 2014**

Michael Fischer

To the chairs and members of the committee:

My name is Michael Fischer. I am a resident and voter of Hamden, a professor of computer science at Yale university with a research interest in cryptography and computer security, and a founding member and President of TrueVoteCT, a voter advocacy group dedicated to maintaining integrity of Connecticut elections. In 2005-2006, I was appointed to the State of Connecticut Voting Technology Standards Board by Governor Jodi Rell and served as elected Vice-chair. I am currently a member of the Board of Advisors of the national Verified Voting Foundation.

I am writing now to express my support for the testimony to be presented by Luther Weeks on the three aforementioned bills. More specifically:

- I support H.B. 5480 subject to the suggested improvements by Mr. Weeks.
- I oppose S.B. 348 because it would replace independent audits with ineffectual retabulation of paper ballots by the same kind of machine used to tabulate them in the first place. While this might catch the occasional malfunctioning scanner, it would do nothing to expose accidentally or maliciously misprogrammed memory cards that control the scanners, nor would it be transparent and publicly observable. Hence, it would do little to enhance public trust in the election process.
- I oppose H.B. 5492 for the reasons stated by Mr. Weeks.

I appreciate the opportunity to present this written testimony to you.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Fischer

80 Killdeer Road
Hamden, CT 06517
(203) 288-9599
fischer-michael@cs.yale.edu