

Testimony of Marla J. Cowden

Registrar of Voters, Westport

Member, ROVAC Technology Committee

Recommending changes to SB 239, AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITING OF SIGNED STATEMENTS OF ELECTORS PRIOR TO VOTING.

Chairperson Flexer, Chairperson Fox, and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, I am writing to recommend the following changes to SB 239, AN ACT CONCERNING AUDITING OF SIGNED STATEMENTS OF ELECTORS PRIOR TO VOTING.

Explanation be provided as to the necessity and use of the data being required under the proposed legislation. Neither are explained in the submission of this bill.

In the event that the Committee is convinced of the necessity of such collection, the Secretary of State conduct a pilot program to collect such data and analyze the results before such collection be rolled out statewide.

If such pilot indicates the need for such collection; or the committee sees fit to move forward with the bill as it stands, I respectfully request that in (f) on page 4 at the end of line 100 the following words be added: “via automated system thereby provided”.

Data collection is expensive. Done manually, it is **very** expensive.

The current Elections Management system can and should be adapted to accept such submissions.

Respectfully submitted,
Marla J. Cowden