September 27, 2017

Regarding the suggestions and recommendations for changing the voting systems in California and specifically Los Angeles County.

1) **Electronic Poll Books** – The use of electronic polling books has more problems than solutions. The possibility of a glitch or outage or other failure during an election will lead to long lines and disenfranchisement of voters. Electronic poll books are frightenly susceptible to hacking and fraud. IF the electronic poll books are used, a current hard copy of the electorate must be provided at each precinct as a backup. Electronic signatures at best are unreadable.

2) **Voting Centers** – voting centers have their own set of problems. Orange County California developed and tested using a voting center in its last election and determined it was not viable. Maybe it would be useful to gather from Orange County's ROV their conclusions. Too many voters can arrive at a polling site and not have the correct access without the use of electronic polling books, which as listed above is problematic.

3) **Thermal Paper** – The use of thermal paper as the paper record according to law, must be retainable for at least 22 months after a Federal election. Thermal paper does not meet this requirement as it deteriorates within a year or so.

4) **Proprietary Software** – Any software used in a voting system in California, must by law, be independently tested and reviewed. Many voting system claim propriety on their software. A rouge player exposes this and any other software system to hacking and fraud. This effect has been demonstrated numerous times.

5) **Auditing** – the current law requires a random 1% manually counted audit of all elections. This can not really be done with the inclusion of voting centers. In addition, how does one audit these thermal tapes? Auditing the bits stored in the DREs is not an independent audit.

6) In full disclosure, I am a member of the **Protect California Ballots** coalition based in Los Angeles. We advocate using all paper ballots, independently assessed and counted at precinct polling sites. This method of hand counting at the polls has be demonstrated numerous times by our group. This method is fully transparent and verifiable. None of the other proposed systems in Los Angeles or California are fully transparent or verifiable.

Thanks for your consideration,
Darlene Little
Protect California Ballots