

voting systems review

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Sent: Friday, March 30, 2007 4:42 PM

To: Voting Systems

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Dear Secretary Bowen,

Congratulations on your intent to do a thorough review and hold our voting systems to the highest standards.

The lack of security and accuracy of electronic voting machines is deeply disturbing and a direct attack on the basic tenets of democracy. Without citizen oversight of vote counting and without trust that our elections are tamper proof, we cannot have confidence that our government represents the voice of the people.

Since the NIST and GAO reports verify the unreliability of electronic machines for voting, and since a MIT/Cal Tech report declared hand counted paper ballots to be the most secure system, I believe those who say we do not have enough time before the 2008 elections to change do not understand that democracy is at stake.

I trust the committee reviewing the Sequoia machines that are used in Monterey County will read and consider all of the reports of problems with the Sequoia system around the country and that the top experts, like Jeremiah Aiken, Joseph Holder and Jim Soper, will be involved and consulted.

The optical scan machines and tabulators should also be reviewed for the potential for being intercepted.

Please make the results of the testing public immediately.