

RESOLUTION 04-26

Passed 5-0
AB: CS; TM
JB; DS left meeting

TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRATIC, TRANSPARENT AND FAIR ELECTIONS

- WHEREAS, the right to vote and have one's vote counted is a fundamental right and the lifeblood of our democracy; and
- WHEREAS, a democratic, transparent and fair election protects this right by ensuring the integrity of the electoral process; and
- WHEREAS, instances of electronic and mechanical voting machine errors have caused many Americans to question both the integrity of such machines and the ability of these machines to guarantee that every vote cast is counted; and
- WHEREAS, electronic voting machines have produced tally errors in at least four Indiana counties in the November 2004 election, and
- WHEREAS, a voting system without a verifiable audit trail gives no assurance to voters that every vote cast is counted and has no utility for verification by means of a recount; and
- WHEREAS, electoral boards and commissions who do not make their procedures transparent to the public cast doubt on the validity of the electoral process; and
- WHEREAS, proprietary codes used by electronic voting machines to record vote tallies undermine electoral transparency, offer no guarantee that such machines are immune from infiltration and manipulation and should be disallowed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION I. It is incumbent upon those who administer elections to ensure that the electoral process is democratic, fair, and transparent.

SECTION II. Each citizen has the right to confirm that her/his vote is counted.

SECTION III. An auditable voting trail must be generated in order for a meaningful recount to occur, if necessary.

SECTION IV. We endorse the principles articulated in the U.S. House of Representatives' proposed H.R. 2239, "The Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2003."

SECTION V. We call for a nationwide voting system that includes: standardized voting machines, source codes made available for public inspection, both electronic and paper records, uniform polling practices and uniform vote tallying/reporting procedures.

SECTION VI. We call upon electoral officials to ensure that recounts proceed and investigations of irregularities are undertaken to ensure that the vote tally is accurate and true.

SECTION VII. We call upon all jurisdictions to ensure that all votes are counted in the November 2004 election and in all future elections.

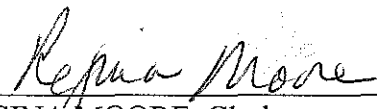
SECTION VIII. We call on the Monroe County Clerk, Election Board, County Commissioners and the County Council to ensure that all election equipment used in any election in Monroe County employ a verifiable audit trail, and use voting machines with software codes that can be examined by the public, or their representatives.

SECTION IX. We direct the City Clerk to send a copy of this resolution, duly adopted, to our State and county officials, Congressional delegation and to the President of the United States.

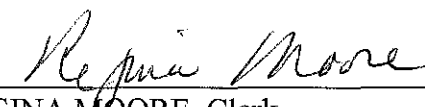
PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 15th day of DECEMBER, 2004.


MICHAEL DIEKHOFF, President
Bloomington Common Council


ATTEST:


REGINA MOORE, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this 16th day of DECEMBER, 2004.


REGINA MOORE, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this 16th day of DECEMBER, 2004.


MARK KRUZAN, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This resolution is sponsored by Councilmember Rollo and calls for fair, democratic and transparent election procedures. Toward that end, it urges the implementation of the following: standardized voting equipment, a verified paper record suitable for audit, uniform polling and reporting practices, and public access to all source codes used in voting machines. It calls for every vote to be accurately recorded and endorses the principles articulated in H.R. 2239. The resolution implores election officials to guarantee that recounts and investigations of irregularities proceed to ensure that the vote tally is accurate. The resolution calls upon county officials to safeguard the integrity of local elections and directs the City Clerk to send a copy of the resolution to State and county officials, the Indiana Congressional delegation and the President of the United States.

Signed copies to:

Legal (5)
M.C. Clerk
M.C. Commissioners

all other elected officials county
State Reps, Senators, Governor
Indiana Congressional Delegation (11)
US President Bush.