

Affidavit of Steven F. Freeman, Ph.D.

State of New Jersey

ss:

County of Camden

I, the undersigned, Dr. Steven F. Freeman, Ph.D, having been duly cautioned and sworn, state that the following is true based on my own personal knowledge:

1. My name is Dr. Steven F. Freeman. I reside at 135 Hawthorne Ave., Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033
2. I earned a B.S. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania (1985), an M.S. in Social Systems Science from the University of Pennsylvania (1988), and a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Management (1998). Since September 2000, I have served in various faculty positions at the University of Pennsylvania, currently as visiting scholar and affiliated faculty at the Center for Organizational Dynamics. I teach workshops in research methods and survey methods, and have spent the majority of my time over the past two years studying exit polling as a tool for protecting the integrity of democratic elections.
3. Exit polling involves the polling of a statistically valid sample of voters as they leave polling places on Election Day and is a well developed and well proven practice.
4. Professional exit polling consistently produces results which verified within their margin of error by officially reported vote results. This occurs in the vast majority of cases.
5. Deviation of reported results from results indicated by professionally conducted exit polling outside the margin of error is internationally recognized as an indicator of irregularities and fraud in the counting of votes in a democratic election.
6. The pollsters for the National Election Pool, the consortium of major media outlets (ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, Fox, and AP) reported a 10.9 percentage point disparity between how Ohio voters said they cast their ballots upon leaving the polling place and the official results in those same precincts. The official numbers in the state deviated so far beyond the polling margin for error as to lead one to conclude that the reported results were not consistent with the way people voted for president in Ohio on November 2, 2004. If people had in fact voted as they say they did upon leaving the polling place, George Walker Bush would not have won Ohio by a plurality of 118,599 votes, but rather lost the state by approximately 500,000 votes.
7. A widely reported study by a group affiliated with MIT and Caltech concluding that the reported Ohio results were consistent with exit polls was based upon exit poll numbers that had been "corrected" (i.e., adjusted) to conform to the reported results, and, therefore, was meaningless. This report had been used by the NY Times, the Washington Post and other media outlets to disparage the possibility that the election results might be inaccurate. But the

MIT/Caltech group acknowledged the error in a correction issued on December 4, 2004. To the best of my knowledge, this acknowledgement was not reported in any of the outlets that published the conclusions of the original report.

8. A presumption that the exit poll discrepancy could be due to Bush voters' decreased likelihood of participation in the exit polls on November 2, 2004, has not been substantiated by empirical data. In fact, what data has been released undermine the plausibility of this presumption.

9. Reports from a wide variety of sources: voter affidavits, telephone complaints, hearings, and analytical reports; indicated irregularities and tampering in favor of the candidacy of George W. Bush. The scope and scale of malfeasance and miscount indicated in these reports are consistent with the conclusion drawn from exit polls that the November 2, 2004 election reported results were grossly in error and fraudulent.

10. I am the first author of the book on the subject of whether the 2004 presidential election in United States was stolen. After careful analysis of all available data, my co-author and I write that "the only conclusion consistent with the data is that the 2004 U.S. presidential election was stolen."

11. There is no comparable study in defense of the integrity of the 2004 presidential election. The response of those who defend the 2004 presidential election as not having been fraudulent has been to make a generalized unsubstantiated attacks upon the reliability of scientific exit polling here in the US and to pressure news organizations, that heretofore have sponsored such exit polling, to discontinue in the United States the practice of exit pollsters' releasing data, even to their own media clients, until that data has been "corrected" so as to conform with the official count.

12. The success of defenders of the 2004 presidential election in pressuring news organizations to discontinue the use of exit polling as a check against election fraud makes the November 2006 and subsequent elections more vulnerable to tampering and fraud than they have previously been in the presence of the discipline of exit polling.

13. Unless major corrective action is taken in recognition of the foregoing evidence of vulnerability to error, tampering and fraud, the administration of the Ohio election grows yet increasingly vulnerable to more error, tampering, and fraud. Without criminal investigation of election malfeasance and prosecution of election crimes, those who perpetuate these actions grow increasingly emboldened.

14. I hold the specific opinions I have expressed herein in my capacity as an expert to a reasonable degree of certainty as that is understood within social science research.

I make this declaration this 24th day of October, 2006 for use in federal court under penalties of perjury.



Steven F. Freeman

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION

King Lincoln Bronzeville Neighborhood	:	Case No.: No. C2-06-745
	:	
Association, et al.,	:	Judge Algenon Marbley
	:	
Plaintiffs,	:	Magistrate Judge Kemp
	:	
vs.	:	
	:	
J. Kenneth Blackwell, et al.,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	
	:	
	:	

Declaration of Robert John Fittrakis

1. I make this declaration based upon my personal knowledge.
2. I reside at 1240 Bryden Road, Columbus, Ohio. I am currently employed as a tenured full Professor at Columbus State Community College. I received a J.D degree from the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 2002, and a Ph.D. in Political Science in 1990 from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. My professional fields are political science, journalism and law. I have twenty-four years of experience teaching college political science courses. I am a recipient of Columbus State's Distinguished Teaching Award.
3. I have authored, co-authored or edited eleven books on politics and public policy, including three on Ohio's 2004 presidential election.
4. I have won eleven major journalism awards including three first-place awards (2000-2002) from the Ohio Society of Professional Journalists and a Project Censored award in 2006 for my reporting on racial discrimination in relationship to voting machine allocations in Franklin County, Ohio in the 2004 general election. I am Editor of the Free Press of Columbus, Ohio and Executive Director of the Columbus Institute for Contemporary Journalism.
5. I have been published in a refereed journal using statistical analysis and have supervised tracking polls and written a statistical report for Erney-Busher & Associates on a ballot initiative.
6. I was the elected Democratic ward person in the 55th ward of Franklin County, Ohio between

1997-2001. I have managed a successful municipal court campaign in 1991, have managed a congressional campaign and acted as media advisor in a school board race.

7. I was an international election observer for the 1994 presidential election in El Salvador's first free and fair elections and co-authored and edited the International Observer's Report delivered to the United Nations.

8. I was the mobile legal advisor for the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition for eight inner-city wards on Election Day 2004 in Franklin County wards 5 and 55.

9. I initiated and moderated the first two public hearings on voting irregularities in Columbus, Ohio in conjunction with the Election Protection Coalition. These two hearings and four others held in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Toledo and Warren, Ohio placed hundreds of eyewitnesses under oath with sworn testimony and notarized affidavits attesting to voting irregularities.

10. I served as an attorney in *Moss v. Bush* a contest of the 2004 Presidential election filed in the Ohio Supreme Court, of counsel in a motion to intervene on behalf of the Alliance for Democracy in the case of *Ohio Democratic Party v. Blackwell* in U.S. District Court in 2005 and of counsel in the instant case.

11. My articles in the Free Press were frequently cited in the Conyers report on "What Went Wrong in Ohio" which was presented to Congress on January 5, 2005, as the Congress was about to consider the historic challenge to the votes of the electors from Ohio in the Electoral College on January 6, 2005.

12. I personally investigated the facts surrounding the shorting of voting machines in Franklin County in the 2004 election, including the formula used for the reallocation of machines between the primary 2004 and the general election and the records documenting the removal of specific machines previously servicing inner-city Columbus precincts.

13. I personally observed the long lines at eight polling places in nine precincts in Columbus Wards 55 and 5 on Election Day, November 2, 2004. As the attorney for the nonpartisan Election Protection Coalition in Wards 55 and 5, with the assistance of Election Protection observers I documented the average wait in line for black voters in these two specific wards of approximately 3 hours and 15 minutes. Election Protection volunteers recorded a 22-minute wait on average in selected suburbs. 42 of the majority black wards, 74% of all majority black wards in Franklin County, had fewer voting machines on November 2, 2004 than in the 2000 presidential election.

14. The allocation of voting machines in Franklin County on November 2, 2004 disproportionately impacted the ability of black citizens to vote in the city of Columbus.

15. I obtained the voter purge rolls from Cuyahoga County from Victoria Lovegren, Ph.D. that Dr. Richard Hayes Phillips analyzed in his work. I checked his statistics and concur with his conclusion that 24.93% of the registered voters in the city of Cleveland were purged from the voting list between the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections.

16. I spoke with Steve Quillen, the Director of the Miami County Board of Elections, on his county's policy towards purging voters and he has repeatedly told me that his county is a "no purge" county.

17. As a political scientist, the fact that in Cleveland, a majority minority city (51% according to the 2002 U.S. census) with a high concentration of absentee ballots is purging nearly a quarter of its registered voters while a rural overwhelmingly white county (2% black according the 2004 U.S. census), Miami County, has a "no purge" policy indicates disparate treatment towards

minority voters as well as a violation of equal protection rights.

18. I reviewed Dr. Richard Hayes Phillips' figures regarding provisional ballots cast in Hamilton County and found them accurate. Dr. Phillips' numbers indicate that 95.12% of all rejected provisional ballots in Hamilton County came from the city of Cincinnati (42.9% black, according to the 2000 U.S. census), where only 32% of the voters in the county reside, while less than 5% of the provisional rejected ballots came from the suburbs with 68% of the voters. Overall, Hamilton County's black population is 24.6%, indicating a heavy concentration of African Americans in the city as opposed to the suburbs.

19. The Columbus Institute of Contemporary Journalism has directly sponsored investigative work involving the review, digital photography and analysis of actual ballots and other records from the 2004 election when these became available for public inspection pursuant to public records requests under ORC §149.43. I reviewed all the investigative work of Ronald Baiman Ph.D. and Richard Hayes Phillips, Ph.D. and provided guidance, assistance and analysis in regard to it, as well as incorporating it into articles for publication in the Free Press and incorporation into scholarly work on the subject in the form of books for which I was principal editor/author.

20. Based upon this investigation, review and analysis, I observed evidence of systematic statewide voter suppression and systematic statewide vote tampering, including in Ohio counties using punchcard ballots with electronic tabulating machines, optical scan ballots and electronic voting machines.

21. This evidence of tampering with ballots and the counting of ballots in the 2004 Ohio Presidential election is consistent with the research and published work of Steven Freeman, Ph.D. and others concerning the dramatic deviation of the reported 2004 Presidential election results from the unadjusted scientific exit poll numbers for that election produced by a consortium of national news organizations.

22. The extent of the documented vote count irregularities clearly exceeded the reported margin of victory of George W. Bush in election 2004 in Ohio, and demonstrates of vulnerability of the Ohio electoral process in its current administrative configuration to partisan vote tampering activity. This is documented in my book, "What Happened in Ohio: A documentary records of theft and fraud in the 2004 election" (New Press). The book includes a chart specifically outlining where the voter suppression and vote tampering occurred.

23. There has yet to be a rebuttal of the evidence of fraud in the 2004 presidential election. Rather than addressing the merits, the opposing response has consisted of a series of arguments as to why the merits need not or should not be addressed. These include: that one should not impugn the integrity of the administration in a time of war; that the country cannot withstand the constitutional crisis that would result from acknowledgment of a stolen presidential election; that fraud on the scale suggested by the evidence is too large and would involve the complicity of too many people to be true; that if the evidence of fraud were true John Kerry and/or the Democratic Party would have contested the election, and the fact that they did not means that those who have contested it are fringe conspiracy theorists; and that there is nothing anyone can do about the theft of the election because of the dominance of the Republican Party over all the branches of government, so it is simply better to accept it and move on.

24. A series of possible innocent explanations for vote count anomalies have been offered, none of which withstands a minimal investigation of the underlying facts that might support them. For example, some have offered the explanation that a down ticket Democratic Party Ohio Supreme Court nominee got more votes than John Kerry because she was a woman. However, the same anomaly applied to other down ticket races where the losing Democratic Party candidates were

men. Furthermore, the anomaly only occurred in certain rural Republican counties.

25. Pursuant to agreement with the Rolling Stone Magazine I served as a fact checker for approximately four months in the course of preparation of the article in the June 1, 2006 issue by Robert Kennedy Jr. describing the fixing of the 2004 Ohio presidential election. The article describes and graphically illustrates both the exit poll determination and statistical anomalies indicative of fraud in the election. It is generally consistent with the evidence and conclusions in Moss v. Bush and our books on this subject, including that most recently published by the New Press.

26. Subsequent to the publication of Robert Kennedy's article and the publication of our most recent book, an additional method of vote tampering was discovered. This involved an apparent systematic statewide strategy of pre-punching for an independent candidate for president in selected ballots in high-performance Democratic precincts had the effect of negating tens of thousands of votes for John Kerry through the creation of "overvotes."

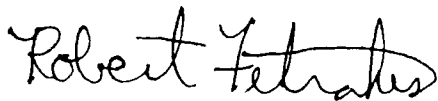
27. There has been no book or other substantial academic or legal defense of the voter suppression and vote counting irregularities and apparent fraud in the 2004 Ohio Presidential election.

28. Absent new protective measures such as across-the-board audits as a check against possible vote count tampering, and backup paper ballots as a check against voter suppression because of long lines, and judicial oversight as sought by the plaintiffs in this lawsuit, there is no basis to believe in my opinion that an election in which control of the Congress and the Ohio Apportionment Board are at issue will not be subject to similar kinds of manipulation that occurred in the 2004 election by the same elements that engaged in such conduct in the 2004 presidential election.

29. As a former international election observer, I believe that the current Ohio system of election machines and administration, including direct recording electronic (DRE) voting machines and optiscan machines, and the proprietary software used with these machines, do not meet standards of transparency generally accepted under the guidelines for democratic elections.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 31st day of October 2006.



Robert Fittrakis

Declaration of Margaret Ann Rosenfield

1. My name is Margaret Ann Rosenfield and I make this declaration based upon my personal knowledge. Furthermore, I make this declaration as an individual and not in any official capacity on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.
2. I reside at 1650 Ridgeway Place, Columbus, Ohio 43212.
3. I have worked in the area of Ohio voter registration and election procedures for 35 years up to the present time.
4. Between January 1979 and January 1991, I worked in the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State as Director of Election Programs. For the balance of my time of work in this area I have functioned in a volunteer capacity as the primary lobbyist for the League of Women Voters of Ohio in election matters.
5. Ohio for years relied on comparing the voter's signature on election day with the signature on the voter's registration. Because we have very few master forgers attempting to impersonate voters, it worked very well -- so long as precinct officials were adequately trained to actually compare the signatures.
6. Ohio House Bill 3, which was enacted in January 2006, imposed for the first time a requirement that every voter show identification at every election -- not just those voters about whom there is a question, but everyone, every time.
7. In my testimony on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Ohio in regard to HB 3, I questioned if precinct workers were not sufficiently trained to compare signatures properly, what

on earth would make us think they will be sufficiently trained to sort out appropriate forms of identification?

8. I further stated that this identification requirement could disenfranchise a number of different kinds of people who are perfectly qualified to vote: the senior citizen who lives in assisted living, no longer drives or pays bills, whose son pays his expenses; the student who lives in a dorm and has no car or utility bills and uses a parent credit card, and is legally entitled to vote here; someone who can't prove citizenship when challenged because he/she was a native-born American but was born in Germany (child of a member of the armed forces) or Puerto Rico, and does not have either a passport or naturalization papers.

9. This whole ID concern is predicated on the idea that people are voting illegally by impersonating voters. No, it is not happening; and if it were, the signature comparison would prevent it. The whole ID problem is a smoke and mirrors sham. The solution to this is contained right in House Bill 3. Section 3505.22 provides all that is needed to allay any fears about fraudulent voting. It is short and simple:

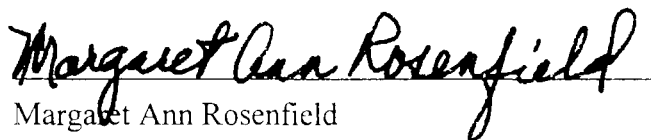
"If any precinct officer has reason to believe that a person is impersonating an elector, that person, before being given a ballot, shall be questioned as to the person's right to vote, and shall be required to sign the person's name or make the person's mark in ink on a card to be provided. If, in the opinion of a majority of the precinct officers, the signature is not that of the person who signed the name in the registration forms, that person shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code."

10. The disenfranchising effect of the new ID requirement is exacerbated by the continuing widespread confusion about what kinds of identification documentation will entitle a voter to a regular ballot and which will necessitate use of a provisional ballot. For example, many county

boards of elections are giving differing answers concerning the rules on the acceptability of a current driver's license that shows a previous address. If the boards of elections have not gotten definitive answers from the secretary of state's staff on this question, it is hard to imagine how they will be able to clarify it for pollworkers and voters.

11. The facts, analysis and assessments I made in my legislative testimony continue to be my view of the matter, except that I am aware that a federal court in Cleveland has enjoined the identification requirements of HB 3 with respect to naturalized citizens.

I make this declaration for use in federal court under penalties of perjury this 17th day of October 2006.


Margaret Ann Rosenfield



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OHIO

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Testimony on Sub HB 3 Before the Senate Rules Committee The Honorable Bill Harris, Chair By Peg Rosenfield, Elections Specialist December 6, 2005

I am Peg Rosenfield, elections specialist for the League of Women Voters of Ohio. The League has been working to improve voting and elections and to increase informed voter participation throughout its 85-year history. I have been involved in these same interests for over 35 years. Since before the original House Bill 3 was introduced and throughout its legislative progress, the League has offered repeatedly, even as recently as in an open letter to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, to work with the legislators to improve the provisions of the bill that will undercut the rights of eligible Ohioans to participate in the political process. We continue to offer the League's unique experience with Ohio's election process. I encourage this committee to deliberate properly on such an important piece of legislation and not to pass this bill with the haste that the House did.

Why are we doing this to the voters of Ohio? House Bill 3 purports to address election fraud, but the real fraud, which is not addressed in the bill, has been the lack of training and resources provided to precinct and board of elections officials to enable them to enforce current law. This bill will have the effect of suppressing the vote, the exact opposite of its ostensible goal. I hope you will think this subject is as important as we think it is, because I need to point out a number of problems with the bill. I will not be talking about the League's lawsuit, but one of the attorneys will. We have many specific comments on the earlier version of the bill, which I would be happy to discuss in a meeting with any of you.

I want to talk about just five of the most serious concerns today. First, let's consider the proposed restrictions on voter registration

Voter Registration

We recognize that some have expressed great concern over the smart alecks who turned in voter registration forms for cartoon characters, but let us keep clearly in mind that this was **not** voter fraud, that Mickey Mouse did not try to vote, and that in any case the boards of elections caught these smart alecks using **current** law and procedures.

Yet this bill introduces draconian new procedures that would make it nearly impossible to conduct the kind of registration drives that the League has been doing for 85 years. It would require each person before doing any registrations to register in **each** county if you plan to register voters from that county, and complete **each** county's training, and re-register **every** year in **each** county. So much for attempting to provide voter registration at the state fair. And I guess we will no longer want universities to encourage young people to register by providing register forms at convocations for new students.

In addition, if you offer to return the completed registration forms for someone else, you no longer may take the forms to your county board of elections or to the Secretary of State's office to be forwarded to the appropriate county. You must now return **each** form **directly** to the board of elections of the applicant's home county. I guess we no longer want any of our universities providing voter registration forms to their students at registration or a convocation.

If you break any of these rules, you have committed a **felony**. These new burdens will surely discourage folks who are trying to be helpful.

[See sections 3503.11(B), 3503.28 (A) (3) - (5), 3503.(B) & (C), 3599.11]

Identification

Ohio has for years relied on comparing the voter's signature on election day with the signature on the voter's registration. Because we have very few master forgers attempting to impersonate voters, it works very well – so long as precinct officials are adequately trained to actually compare the signatures.

This bill would impose for the first time a requirement that every voter show identification at every election – not just those voters about whom there is a question, but everyone, every time. Now, if precinct workers are not sufficiently trained to compare signatures properly, what on earth makes us think they will be sufficiently trained to sort out appropriate forms of identification?

The ID requirements could disenfranchise a number of different kinds of people who are perfectly qualified to vote. The senior citizen who lives in assisted living, no longer drives or pays bills, whose son pays his expenses; the student who comes to Ohio to attend a private school like Dayton or Case Western or Otterbein, lives in a dorm and has no car or utility bills, uses a parent credit card, but considers Ohio his residence and is legally entitled to vote here; an 18-year-old who can't prove citizenship when challenged because he was born in Germany while his father was stationed there or was in graduate school there.

This whole ID concern is predicated on the idea that people are voting illegally by impersonating voters. No, it is not happening; and if it were, the signature comparison would prevent it. The whole ID problem is a smoke and mirrors sham.

[See sections 3501.01 (AA) (1) - (5), 3505.18, 3505.20]

Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots were invented to be a “fail-safe” method of preventing mistakes by election officials or bureaucratic hurdles from disenfranchising eligible voters. If your registration form did not get entered in the poll book or if you moved to a different address without submitting a change of address form, you could vote a provisional ballot, giving the board of elections time to straighten out the records and count your vote. Boards weren’t thrilled with the extra paperwork, but the limited number of provisional ballots turned out to be manageable.

This bill completely subverts the purpose of provisional voting. Instead of enfranchising more voters, the provisional voting rules that are proposed, together with the ID requirements being proposed, will greatly increase the chances of disenfranchising some and inconveniencing many and imposing a serious additional burden on precinct workers and boards of elections. For example, if you move **within** your same precinct, your name and signature are already in the poll book, so you have always been allowed to complete a change of address at the polling place and vote a regular ballot. Under this bill, you will now be required to present some form of prescribed ID, fill out a 2 1/2 page form, and then vote a provisional ballot, with no assurance that your vote will be counted. Increased use of provisional ballots is being used to disenfranchise instead of to enfranchise voters. The added inconvenience and uncertainty for voters, the increased hassle for poll workers, and the greater paperwork load for boards of elections will slow the ballot count, increase the chances for error, make it even more difficult to retain poll workers, undermine the credibility of the election, and suppress the vote.

[See sections 3503.16 (B) (1), 3503.23 (D), 3505.181, 3505.182]

THE SOLUTION to both of these problems of ID and provisional ballots is contained right in this bill! Section 3505.22 could provide all that is needed to allay any fears about fraudulent voting. It is short and simple:

“If any precinct officer has reason to believe that a person is impersonating an elector, that person, before being given a ballot, shall be questioned as to the person’s right to vote, and shall be required to sign the person’s name or make the person’s mark in ink on a card to be provided. If, in the opinion of a majority of the precinct officers, the signature is not that of the person who signed the name in the registration forms, that person shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.”

Public Information & Records

It is very troubling to see yet another retreat from public access to information in this bill. There are 34 places where it is proposed to reduce the number of times various election-related notices are published in newspapers. Instead of three or four notices, it proposes just one, plus posting on a web site. The web site is a fine idea, but it is not a sufficient replacement for two or three publications in newspapers. Younger people are the ones more likely to use a web site; they are also least likely to vote. Older people are more likely to read the newspaper; and they are the most likely to vote of any age group. So this change will have a disparate effect on different age groups. Keep the posting on the web site and require two notices in the newspaper.

The wording in this bill seems to say that we can only see the county or state database to check the accuracy of our voter registrations by going to the board of elections, where we can view a "cleansed" version that doesn't show Social Security number or other confidential information. These are public records, so why is the database not available on line to everyone? If it can be made available on line at the board of elections there is no technical reason that it can't be on line anywhere. No one needs to give a reason or ID to see a public record, so make these public records available to the public.

[See sections 131.23, 3501.05 (W), 3501.24, 3503.13 (A)]

Counts & Recounts

The procedures and rules for counts and recounts seem to be taking several steps backwards. Simply specifying hard and fast deadlines does nothing to address the need for fair and efficient procedures, to be very sure of a correct count in the official canvass, to reduce the questions and suspicions that give rise to the demands for recounts. We are appalled that the requirement for a 3% random hand count has been omitted, for this is the best way so far devised for reassuring everyone that it was an honest count. With new voting equipment being introduced throughout the state, it is imperative that the new equipment be checked against a random hand count to assure candidates, voters, and the media that it is producing an honest count, particularly in light of the serious questions that have been raised around the country.

[See sections 3505.32, 3506.01 (C), 3506.20, 3509.06 (F), 3515.03, 3515.041]

My remarks today may not all have been timely, for they pertain to a earlier draft version of Sub HB 3, because we were unable to study a copy of the current version being introduced today. Of course, that means that the members of this committee have not had sufficient time to consider this current version either.

We have offered repeatedly to meet with the people who were drafting this version of HB 3, but we received no response. We would like to work with you to discuss our concerns and try to salvage the good provisions that are in the bill before it is sent to the full Senate for consideration. We have a lot of specific questions and suggestions that we would be happy to discuss with any of you who want to meet with us.

Declaration of Samuel Gresham

- I. My name is Samuel Gresham, and I make this declaration based upon my personal knowledge.
- II. I serve as Acting Executive Director of Common Cause/Ohio, the state affiliate of a national nonpartisan nonprofit group founded in 1970 that supports open, honest and accountable government. We have some 10,000 members in the state, and our offices is at 50 W. Broad St., Suite 1705, Columbus, OH 43215. In my capacity as executive director, I followed closely the legislative history of House Bill 3 which was enacted into law in January 2006.
- III. The substance of House Bill 3 in the form which it passed originated out of the leadership structure of the Ohio Republican caucuses in the Ohio House and the Ohio Senate. There were no advocacy groups supporting the legislation and only two members of boards of elections offered testimony in support of this legislation.
- IV. Not a single Democrat member of the House or Senate supported the passage of House Bill 3 in the form in which it was enacted. One Republican senator and two Republican house members voted against the final version of House Bill 3.
- V. Twenty-one witnesses who appeared in committee hearings in the House and Senate testified in opposition to the Republican proposed provisions of House Bill 3. Republican legislators who spoke in support of the bill did so on the basis of anecdotal references to isolated instances where a few individuals who were paid to register new voters had submitted bogus registration forms. These phony registrations were caught by the boards of elections and were rejected.
- VI. Public testimony in opposition to House Bill 3 was presented by Common Cause/Ohio, the League of Women Voters of Ohio, the NAACP National Voter Fund,

COOHIO (Coalition on Homelessness in Ohio), Ohio Citizen Action and many other public-interest groups, including the grassroots organization known as Citizens Alliance for Secure Elections. Much of the testimony pointed out that there was not a problem of “voter fraud” in the State of Ohio. This was supported by a survey conducted by COOHIO and the Ohio League of Women Voters, of the various boards of elections around the State of Ohio. Additional testimony was offered that the prescribed voter identification requirements of House Bill 3 would not add to the protection already afforded by comparing the signature of the voter to voters’ registered signatures, but would create confusion, delay and in other ways tend to suppress voting by particular demographic groups which may be inclined to vote for Democratic Party candidates, including but not limited to African American and college student voters.

VII. It became apparent to me that the Republican leadership in the Ohio Legislature was not interested in this public testimony. It was clear that their purpose was purely partisan, and the problems with the proposed legislation that had been described by the public witnesses were not problems from a partisan viewpoint. It appeared that the net affect would be to produce confusion and reduce voter turnout.

VIII. Common Cause as an organization is committed to enforcing laws prohibiting voter suppression/intimidation. While it is important that only eligible voters are allowed to vote, it is also important that political parties and other advocates not engage in activities intended to intimidate voters and disrupt elections, particularly through legislation.

IX. Common Cause is equally committed to reducing partisanship and conflict of interest in election administration. Government officials in charge of running elections

should not be engaged in partisan political campaigns if we are to have elections voters can trust. Election officials must avoid any real or apparent conflict of interest with the vendors who provide equipment and assistance in many areas of election administration.

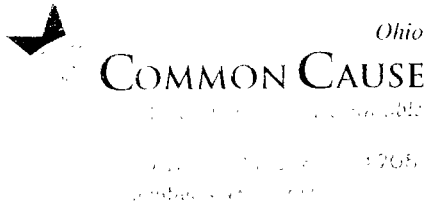
X. On September 6, 2006 Common Cause/Ohio requested of the U.S. Elections Assistance Commission and its Inspector General that they conduct an audit to determine whether Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell has properly disbursed funds made available to Ohio under the Help America Vote Act. Among other actions that support an audit, Common Cause/Ohio noted, "Blackwell has disbursed a significant amount of HAVA funds to a number of large Republican contributors as he has simultaneously campaigned for governor."

I make this declaration for use in federal court under penalties of perjury this ____ day of

October 2006.



Samuel Gresham



September 6, 2006

The Honorable Paul DeGregorio
The Honorable Donetta Davidson
The Honorable Gracia Hillman
Commissioners – U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1225 New York Avenue, Suite 1100
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: Ohio's Use of HAVA Funds

Dear Commissioners:

Common Cause/Ohio, a nonprofit nonpartisan government watchdog citizen organization is writing to request that you conduct an immediate audit to determine whether Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell has properly disbursed funds made available to Ohio under the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA"). You recently conducted a similar audit of the Secretary of State in California (a Democrat) and allege that there was improper spending of HAVA dollars. There is strong reason to believe that HAVA funds are being mishandled in Ohio, and that HAVA compliance is in jeopardy with important elections approaching.

As you know, HAVA was a bipartisan federal measure enacted to address the 2000 presidential election fiasco. Among other things, HAVA authorized funds to update voting machines and to conduct nonpartisan voter education campaigns. A fundamental underpinning of HAVA was that the expenditure of HAVA funds would not be for partisan political gain or to line the pockets of political supporters, but would ensure full and fair elections.

We are concerned that Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell has not abided by this core premise. Absent federal action, Ohio's HAVA funds could likely be spent in a partisan manner, designed less to ensure that every citizen is afforded proper access to polls than to ensure the election of Secretary Blackwell as governor.

We do not make this request lightly, but based upon a long record of the appearance of malfeasance that could endanger both the fairness and efficiency of the upcoming elections in Ohio. Consider the following facts.

2004 Election

Under Secretary Blackwell, the 2004 election in Ohio resulted in serious problems and widespread criticism. Although he had received millions of dollars in HAVA funds prior to the election, Secretary Blackwell did not disburse these funds in a timely manner. Not surprisingly, then, Ohio was not in compliance with HAVA's requirements during the 2004 election. Instead, Secretary Blackwell requested and received an extension regarding the obligation to comply

with HAVA for the 2004 election. While the extension, in and of itself, would not merit an audit, Secretary Blackwell's conduct of the election after he received the HAVA waiver raises more significant concerns.

For instance, during the 2004 election, voting places in predominantly Democratic precincts experienced long lines and lengthy waits that were not matched in Republican strongholds. Later analysis has revealed that under Secretary Blackwell, Ohio's chief elections officer and simultaneously a Co-Chairman of President Bush's re-election effort in Ohio, there had been a striking disparity involving the number and types of voting machines that were placed in Democratic versus Republican precincts. Secretary Blackwell, instead of taking proactive measures to address these concerns, has simply dodged his responsibility as the chief's state elections officer and blamed local elections officials

Secretary Blackwell also spent more than \$2 million in federal dollars to advertise himself on television urging people to vote in their correct precinct in 2004. (Mark Niquette, "GOP Foes Both Did No-Bid Deals," *Columbus Dispatch*, March 12, 2006). A federal judge had ruled that voting in the correct county for the office of President of the United States was adequate, but Secretary Blackwell fought this decision and prevailed in the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals and then "educated" voters using HAVA funding. A recent Akron Beacon Journal editorial recognized that Blackwell had "tapp[ed] into federal money to pitch himself" (*Akron Beacon Journal*, Aug. 8, 2006).

2006 Election

Ohio's HAVA compliance problems have continued after the 2004 election. In his April 15, 2006 Ohio Ethics Commission filing, Secretary Blackwell disclosed that he had purchased stock in Diebold, Inc., the chief beneficiary of HAVA spending in Ohio. Secretary Blackwell established the cost of a Diebold electronic voting machine as the standard for distributing HAVA funds. Any board of elections that wished to purchase machines from another vendor would have to seek local funding to cover any costs beyond the approved Diebold rate. As a result, Diebold was selected by more than half the county boards of elections in the state and nearly all of the counties choosing direct recording electronic voting machines in Ohio. A report recently issued by the Election Science Institute shows that these machines grossly malfunctioned during the 2006 primary election, where 10% of the ballots cast on the machines in Cuyahoga County were flawed. (John Mazzolini, "10% of May Ballots Flawed," *The Plain Dealer*, Aug. 16, 2006). Mr. Blackwell's support of Diebold and its defective voting machines was highly inappropriate given his ownership of Diebold stock. This conduct, in and of itself, should raise serious enough concerns to merit federal action. In fact, I am aware of no other chief election officer in the nation, including in California, that engaged in such self dealing. That, however, is not the extent of the problem.

Currently, there are ominous signs that Secretary Blackwell will continue to disburse HAVA funds in an inappropriate manner. Secretary Blackwell is both the chief elections official in Ohio and the Republican nominee for governor. Even with the potential for a conflict of interest inherent in such dual roles, or at a minimum the appearance of a conflict, Secretary Blackwell's actions have been brazen with respect to HAVA spending.

Specifically, Secretary Blackwell has disbursed a significant amount of HAVA funds to a number of large Republican contributors as he has simultaneously campaigned for governor. For instance, Secretary Blackwell authorized payments to Smart Solutions and Excel Management of Columbus, two firms headed by Republican contributors. Furthermore,

Secretary Blackwell gave more than \$10,000 in HAVA funds to Professor Robert Destro (most recently known contract is for \$75,000), a Washington, D.C. law professor who publicly supports Blackwell and is actively engaged in partisan politics, including playing a leading role with Mr. Blackwell in the campaign to amend Ohio's constitution to prohibit same sex marriage. (Wayne Madsen, "Ohio Election Chief Can't Certify How Federal Money Was Spent," *Online Journal*, August 19, 2005). An audit should be conducted to determine what precisely a conservative legal scholar who specializes in religious issues contributed to HAVA compliance in Ohio.

Most recently, Secretary Blackwell has refused to heed numerous calls from both inside and outside Ohio, including from the *New York Times*, that he recuse himself from matters directly bearing on his election. (*New York Times*, June 7, 2006). Instead of a recusal, Secretary Blackwell responded to such public pressure by simply absenting himself from the HAVA implementation process (and many other of his core duties as Secretary of State) and "delegating" important functions to lower level employees of his office. (Mark Niquette, "Blackwell Delegates Job Duties to Deputy," *Columbus Dispatch*, July 30, 2006).

This informal "delegation" of authority is the worst of both worlds. It creates the real possibility that important HAVA implementation work will not be completed on a timely basis because the Secretary of State is not involved. At the same time, however, it preserves Secretary Blackwell's ability to weigh in on important HAVA spending and policy decisions that could assist him in his campaign for governor. For instance, Secretary Blackwell could again seek to ensure that voters in Republican-leaning areas have more machines and shorter waits than voters in Democratic areas. In short, a "half recusal" is worse than no recusal at all because it merely removes Secretary Blackwell from public accountability for his actions.

Secretary Blackwell's inability to perform his duties relating to HAVA is particularly troubling at this late date because a host of problems with HAVA spending in Ohio still persist. For instance, while Secretary Blackwell recently authorized the payment of more HAVA funds to Diebold (the company in which he owned stock) for "maintenance" expenses, voting machines in Franklin County have no privacy curtains to ensure voters may confidentially cast their votes. (Robert Vitale, "Voters Won't See Curtains Nov. 7," *Columbus Dispatch*, Aug. 4, 2006). Secretary Blackwell also recently changed the standard "I Voted Today" sticker given to Ohio voters to read "'I Voted Today -- Change Our World, Vote Your Conscience," highlighting one of the themes of his campaign for governor. (*Akron Beacon Journal*, Aug. 8, 2006). Taken together, these acts indicate a pattern of mispending public funds for improper political purposes on the part of Ohio's chief elections officer.

Request for Audit

Recently, in California, under a Democratic elections official, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission undertook an audit of the expenditure of HAVA funds. The need to take such action in Ohio is apparent from the record in Ohio.

Such an audit will not only preserve the promise of HAVA, it will rebut recent claims that HAVA oversight has been partisan. The *New York Times* recently expressed this view in the wake of the U.S. Department of Justice's suit against a Democrat elections official in Alabama:

President Bush's Justice Department has been criticized for letting partisanship guide its work on voting and elections. And party politics certainly appears to have been a driving force in a legal maneuver it just pulled off in Alabama, where it persuaded a federal judge to take

important election powers away from the Democratic secretary of state and give them to a Republican governor . . . (*New York Times*, August 3, 2006).

Indeed, President Bush came to Ohio the same day this editorial appeared and helped raise \$1.5 million for Secretary Blackwell's campaign.

Common Cause/Ohio believes that there is sufficient appearance of a pattern of misuse of public funds that we call on the Federal Election Assistance Commission and the Acting Inspector General, U.S. EAC to take proactive steps with respect to HAVA, by conducting an immediate audit of the expenditure of HAVA funds in Ohio, where the Secretary of State happens to be a Republican and a candidate for governor, to assure that the money is being wisely spent and not wasted to line the pockets of political contributors or to gain partisan advantage. A copy of this letter is also being forwarded the United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez, in the hope that he too will decide to take appropriate steps to ensure Ohio voters are not disenfranchised by Secretary Blackwell's inappropriate conduct.

If the federal government fails to take such action, I fear that HAVA's promise may prove an empty one for Ohio.

Sincerely,



Samuel Gresham, Acting Executive Director
Common Cause/Ohio

cc: The Honorable Alberto Gonzales
United States Attorney General

Mr. Roger LaRouche
Acting Inspector General
U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Secretary of State Blackwell

For Immediate Release
September 8, 2006

Contact: Samuel Gresham, Acting Executive
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COMMON CAUSE/OHIO CALLS FOR FEDERAL AUDIT
OF OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE BLACKWELL'S SPENDING OF
HELP AMERICAN VOTE ACT (HAVA) FUNDS

Columbus, OH - September 6, 2006 - Common Cause/Ohio, a state affiliate of one of the nation's oldest and most respected nonpartisan government watchdogs, today called on the Federal Election Assistance Commission ("EAC") and the Acting Inspector General, U.S. EAC to conduct a full financial audit of Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell's expenditure of Help American Vote Act ("HAVA") federal funds, charging the partisan expenditure of funds in violation of the stated purpose of the Act to improve elections in Ohio in the aftermath of the 2004 presidential election. It also notified United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez of its request.

The federal government has recently taken action against election officials in two states—Alabama and California based on election administration concerns. Common Cause/Ohio noted that, in those two cases, the election officials were Democrats. Common Cause/Ohio urged the EAC to disprove recent allegations, including those by the New York Times, of a partisan enforcement agenda.

Common Cause/Ohio cited Blackwell's use of "more than \$2 million in federal dollars to advertise himself on television" during the 2004 election, stating that the media had already noted that "Blackwell had 'tapp[ed] into federal money to pitch himself . . .'". The letter also notes that Blackwell has ignored public calls from a wide range of sources, including the New York Times, to recuse himself from matters relating to his own election. Blackwell's recent decision, in the face of public pressure, to informally "delegate" certain of his core job responsibilities to subordinates, does not address the issue, stating that "a 'half recusal' is worse than no recusal at all because it merely removes Secretary Blackwell from public accountability for his actions."

Among other actions that support an audit, Common Cause/Ohio noted, "Blackwell has disbursed a significant amount of HAVA funds to a number of large Republican contributors as he has simultaneously campaigned for governor" including:

" Smart Solutions, a Columbus company

" Excel Management of Columbus

" Professor Robert Destro, a Washington, D.C. law professor who publicly supports Blackwell and is actively engaged in partisan politics, and whom has already come under public scrutiny for receiving such funds

Calling his actions "brazen," Common Cause/Ohio noted that Blackwell's ownership of Diebold stock while negotiating with Diebold for purchase of equipment and setting up Diebold as the standard for awarding funds to counties is "self dealing." HAVA is the federal law passed by Congress to address voting problems in the 2000 Florida Presidential election. Congress through HAVA and its administering agency, the Election Assistance Commission, made millions of dollars in federal funds available to the States to help them update their voting systems and properly train and educate voters and election officials for improved election processes in the U.S.

DECLARATION OF THOMAS BETTI

I, Thomas Betti, being of legal age and sound mind, do hereby declare and state:

1. I am employed as Special Projects Coordinator with the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO), located in Columbus, Ohio. In this capacity, my duties consist of varying public policy projects, assisting in media, communication and development projects, fundraising, and organizational operations. I have worked in this capacity since May of 2005. Our organization is a statewide advocacy group that deals with issues that affecting low income and homeless Ohioans.

2. In June 2005, at the time that Sub HB 3 was being considered by the Ohio legislature, I conducted a study to determine the prevalence of voting fraud in Ohio elections. The methodology followed in this study was as follows: I called all 88 county boards of elections, and asked to speak with either the Director or the Deputy Director. After properly introducing myself and indicating I was conducting a public policy study, I then asked that person the following question: "Were there any voter fraud cases within your county from the Election of 2002 and 2004?" If the person answered with anything other than an unequivocal "no," then I inquired further by calling the county prosecutor's office. It was necessary to contact eight county prosecutor's offices. In any cases where the Board of Elections official or county prosecutor stated that there was fraud, I inquired further determining if they were referring to voter fraud or voter registration fraud as the two are distinctly different. For purposes of our study, voter fraud was defined as an individual attempting to vote or have voted who is not legally eligible to do so and in conflict with voting laws. Voter registration fraud is a voter registration form that contains false information that would be turned into a government office for registration purposes. The study concluded that no case of voter fraud was a result of

someone falsely registering to vote. My telephone inquiries specifically made these distinctions so that there was no confusion to the respondent's answers.

3. My inquiries resulted in the report which is attached as Exhibit A to this declaration, released on June 14, 2005. This report accurately reflects my findings, and I incorporate them by reference into this declaration.

4. My telephone inquiries a total of four cases of reported voter fraud in all of Ohio in the 2002 and 2004 elections, out of a total of over nine million combined votes cast in those two elections. The total of 9,078,728 was reached by adding the number of voter turnout in 2002 and 2004, as reported by the Ohio Secretary of State. The report includes cases of voter fraud that the county prosecutors found to have merit and pursuing legal action. The four reported incidents of fraud in which charges were filed are as follows:

a) Medina County- One case of voter fraud that is being prosecuted. Woman reportedly claimed to be her mother and tried to vote using her mother's ballot.

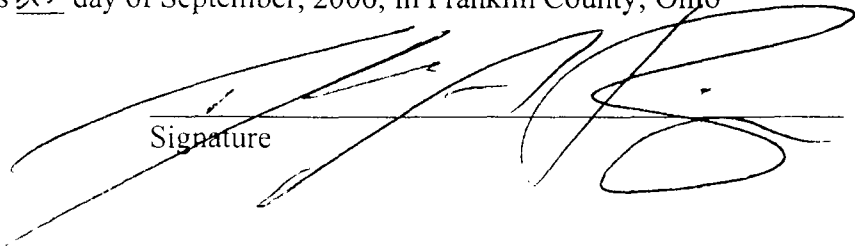
b) Lorain County - One case of double voting with "merit of intent." It is my understanding that "merit of intent" in this instance refers to an individual initially voting more than once and is not accidental.

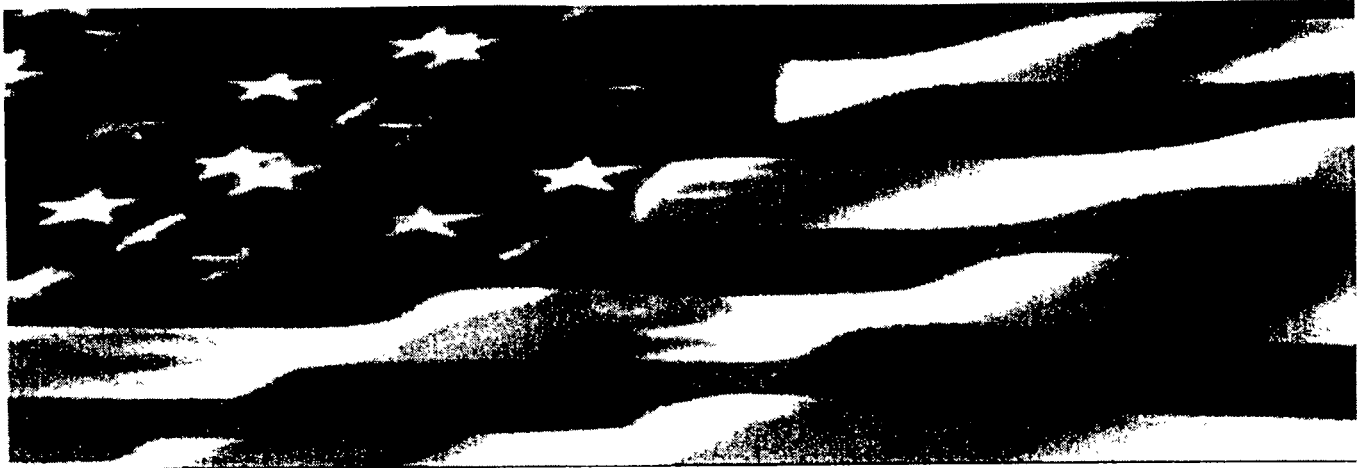
c) Madison County- Two cases of voter fraud that are being prosecuted. Elderly couple reportedly voted absentee and received a call on Election Day from a poll worker (who was also a friend) that their absentee ballot wasn't counted. Couple then voted at their polling place and due to a computer glitch their absentee ballot wasn't recorded as being counted which in fact it was. Because a school ballot issue failed by an extremely small amount of votes, the prosecutor was forced to prosecute publicly.

5. None of the prosecutions in the 2002 or 2004 election involved a non-U.S. citizen fraudulently attempting to vote. However, in my conversation with Lorain County Board of Elections Director Marilyn Jacobcik on June 6, 2005, I believe that she reported one instance of

non-U.S. citizen attempting to vote that was not prosecuted. The individual was reportedly unaware of voting requirements and was mistaken that only U.S. citizens were allowed to vote. Ms. Jacobcik indicated there were language barriers and believed it was an honest mistake. The research of this report did not uncover a single incident of any noncitizen pretending to be a citizen in order to vote.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Executed this 29 day of September, 2006, in Franklin County, Ohio

Signature 



Let the People Vote

A Joint Report on Election Reform
Activities in Ohio

Issued by:

The Coalition on Homelessness
and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)

and

The League of Women Voters of
Ohio

June 14th, 2005

Only four fraudulent votes out of 9 million cast in 2002-2004.

The odds are greater to Win the Lottery, Get Struck by Lightning, than Cast an Ineligible Vote in Ohio

To hear some at the Statehouse tell the story, the 2004 election was plagued by widespread voter “fraud” and abuse. There were stories of the deceased attempting to vote. There were stories of people being bussed into Ohio and paid to vote. There were stories of people attempting to vote two and three times.

Because there is very little evidence to substantiate these “stories ” which are based only on anecdotal evidence, the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO), along with the League of Women Voters of Ohio, launched a research project in an effort to determine the actual number of ineligible votes cast in the state’s last two general elections.

This report was undertaken because the Ohio Legislature is considering placing additional voter identification barriers in a substitute bill, to replace Sub HB 3 and to be introduced on June 15. We believe this hasty response is not in the best interest of Ohio voters. The data reflects that these “stories” are untrue.

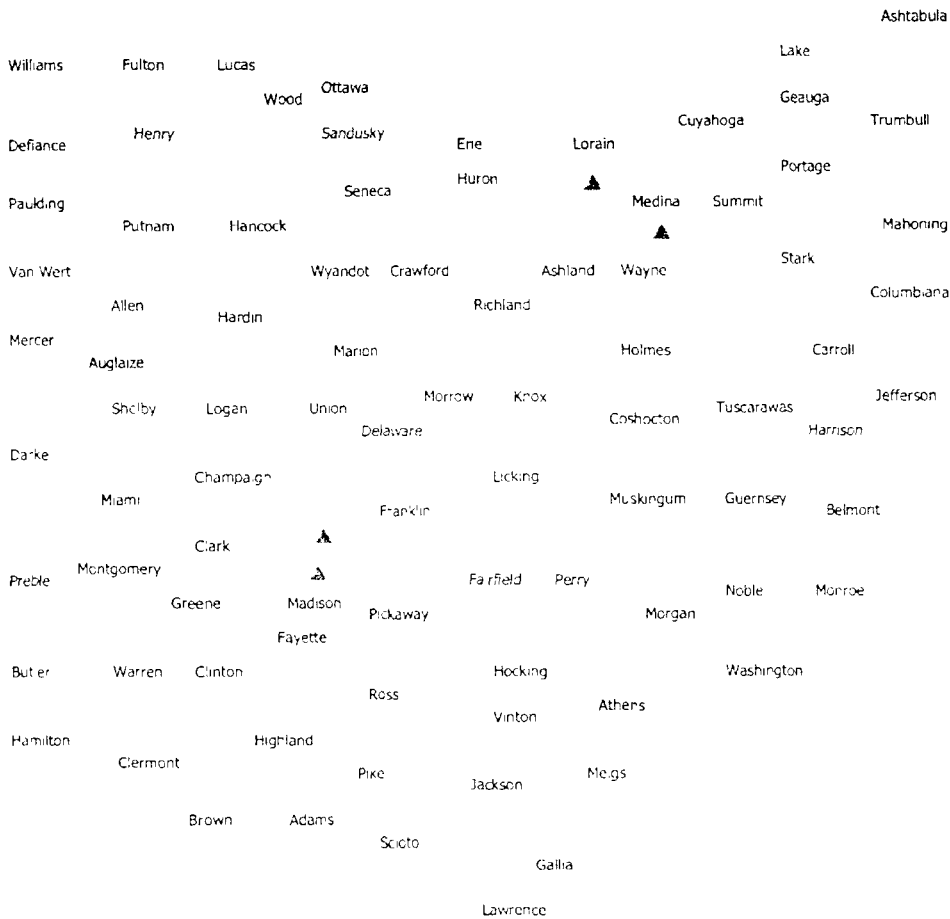
Of the 9,078,728 votes cast in Ohio’s 2002 and 2004 general elections, a total of four were deemed as ineligible or “fraudulent” and found by the Board of Elections and County Prosecutors to have merit and pursued legal action. In other words, with a .00000044% the odds are greater to win the lottery, or get struck by lightning than someone casting an ineligible vote in Ohio.

The research project was conducted via telephone interviews with either the Director or Deputy Director of each of the state’s 88 county Boards of Elections during the first week of June 2005. For purposes of this report, voter fraud is defined as “an ineligible voter voting or attempting to vote.”

Each Board was asked the following question: “Were there any voter fraud cases within your county from the Election of 2002 and 2004?” Responses to this question

(along with any additional information provided) were then tabulated. The tabulated responses serve as the basis for this joint report.

Contrary to the rhetoric associated with recent election reform efforts (most notably Sub. H.B. 3) in Columbus, the project found that voter fraud (as characterized by some in the General Assembly) is not rampant. In fact, its occurrence is exceedingly



rare as evidenced by the fact that the four identified cases are confined to just three of the state's 88 counties. Officials in most of the other counties even went so far as to report that their office had no record of fraudulent or ineligible votes being cast ever. Obviously, there is a disconnect between the rhetoric and the facts.

▲ Case of prosecutable voter fraud

For example,

Rep Jim Trakas, Vice-Chair of the House Elections and Ethics Committee cited an example in an open hearing last month that he had heard about a busload of people from West Virginia coming over to Ohio to vote in 1960. Senator Jeff Jacobson, the Sub HB 3 manager in the Senate, seems to agree that there is rampant "fraud" in the state's election system. In his sworn testimony before the United States Committee on House Administration on March 18, 2005, Jacobson stated "As we look ahead to

future Ohio elections, we hope to update our election laws this General Assembly by curbing fraudulent abuses and clarifying elections procedures. To this extent we are considering whether to require voters to present identification at the polls, curb third-party funded voter registration abuses,..." While both comments would lead one to believe that voter "fraud" and abuse is widespread, the facts simply do not bear this out. Worse yet, they create an environment where solutions to problems that may or may not exist get presented and adopted with little if any debate. The right to vote is too important to get shortchanged by speculation, innuendo, or implication.

It is a disservice to the public, board of elections and integrity of the election system for lawmakers to legislate by folklore. The moment the public loses faith in the election system, democracy is threatened.

Not only has our research helped to debunk some of the myths associated with purported voter fraud in this state, it also serves as a solid basis on which to advocate against some of the proposed "solutions" to this non-existent problem.

114,400 Ohio voters would be refused the right to vote for lack of a photo ID

Dr. Norman Robbins, Greater Cleveland Voter Coalition

Much of the overheated media and political publicity about "voter fraud" actually pertains to registration fraud. Yet no cases of either registration or voting fraud have been brought to the Ohio Court of Appeals since 2000 even though over 8 million votes were cast in the General Elections of 2000 and 2002¹. Furthermore, while there are a handful of investigated cases from 2004 where fictitious registration forms were submitted, current registration procedure (which requires verifiable driver's license or Social Security number), and severe penalties under existing Ohio law have clearly been very effective in preventing ineligible voters from voting.

The cause of problems in this state's elections system is, not voter fraud but is system failure. Unfortunately, the General Assembly is poised to pass sweeping "election reform" legislation that will not reform the systemic problems, but will result in more Ohioans being disenfranchised.

The League of Women Voters of Ohio, who encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, questions the need for more identification requirements for Ohio voters. It is hard to imagine what purpose this serves other than to discourage people from voting. If you show up at the polls and wait in line only to be told you must show ID, many voters cannot or will not go home for their ID, then come back and stand in line again to vote. And are people even going to be willing to show ID in a situation that has never before required it?

The right to vote is the cornerstone of democratic government. Sub HB 3 will not protect the right to vote. In fact, this legislation will create unnecessary and arbitrary barriers to voting, barriers that will result in greater numbers of Ohioans being disenfranchised. The goal of the Ohio legislature should be to make it easier for people to vote not more difficult. Citizens of this state deserve better.

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) is a statewide non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to promoting safe, decent, and affordable housing for all Ohioans. Part of this advocacy agenda includes voter registration, education, and mobilization efforts targeted at low-income as well as homeless individuals and families.

The League of Women Voters of Ohio is a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Endnotes

¹ Ohio Lottery Commission, [How to Play Super Lotto Plus and Six Great Ways to Win!!!](http://www.ohiolottery.com/games/slp/slp_home.html), http://www.ohiolottery.com/games/slp/slp_home.html

² National Weather Service Office of Climate, Water, and Weather Services, [Medical Aspects of Lightning](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/medical.htm), <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/medical.htm>