

Subject: RE: Regarding DRE certification

Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2007 10:31 AM

To: Voting Systems

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To whom it may concern:

I just read the article in the Contra Costa Times (<http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/community/16986435.htm>) regarding reactions to your plan to require stricter certification of DRE voting machines and the actual enforcement of the law requiring paper verified voting trails.

This is a happy day. For too long we have been inundated with reports of failures and blatant security holes while the election officials failed to react or reacted in such a way as to make one wonder if they were paying attention. As a voter in California, and a computer scientist, the situation in this country has grown increasingly frightening. I am proud that California is finally taking strides in the right direction, and hope that we can continue down this path becoming an example for the rest of the country.

I believe that electronic voting is the future and there is no reason it cannot be implemented securely. Above all, I hope you can ignore the cry that there is not enough time before the next election to implement changes. While that may well be the case, that is no excuse not to start and take the first starts. Additionally, this arguement avoids the inconvenient fact that in this country, and in this state we are never more than two years from a major election. If we don't have time to prepare before the 2008 election (18 months away) when will we ever have longer?