A Resolution by the Salt Lake County Council expressing its disapproval of the proposed “Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007” (HR811).

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED THAT:

WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives of the 110th Congress is considering a bill titled the “Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007” (HR811); and

WHEREAS, the effect of the Bill, if adopted, would be to render the current DRE electronic voting machines used by Salt Lake County, and other counties throughout the State of Utah unlawful, and require a change to a new voting system; and

WHEREAS, in an independent election survey of voters in the Utah 3rd Congressional District primary election using the DRE voting machines, conducted by the BYU “Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy”, 95% of the respondents surveyed felt somewhat confident, or very confident that their ballot would be counted accurately; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County, in conjunction with the State of Utah, has invested several million dollars in acquiring DRE electronic voting machines and has invested substantial additional funds to warehouse said machines, revamp election processes to accommodate said machines, and train election personnel on the use of the machines; and

WHEREAS, changing from the current voting system to a new voting system could actually erode voter confidence in the election process, and burden Salt Lake County with additional expenses associated with a change to another new voting system; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake County Council does express its opposition to HR811, currently before the 110th Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake County Council urges the 110th Congress, and in particular the Senators and Representatives serving the citizens of the State of Utah to reject HR811.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this ___________day of May, 2007.

SALT LAKE COUNTY

By ____________________________
Mark Crockett, Chair
Salt Lake County Council