To Obtain Public Oversight over the Integrity of Utah’s Elections and Ensure Accurate Election Outcomes

We Request That the Utah Legislature Change Utah’s Election Statutes to Establish:

- public posting of polling place totals at poll closing and public posting of precinct-level vote counts on the Internet during the canvass period
- public access to election and voter registration records, and election data necessary to evaluate the integrity of Utah’s electoral process, including supervised public access to poll books and other election returns and public posting copies of detailed voting records on the Internet
- reconciliation of the number of voters processed with the number of printed, cast, spoiled, used, and unused ballots - retain the unused ballots necessary for reconciliation
- public disclosure and public scrutiny over election procedures including security of ballots and election records
- statistically valid post-election audits using procedures that ensure that less than 5% of any incorrect machine-counted election outcomes are incorrectly certified
  - random selection of vote counts to be audited after polls close and after preliminary vote counts for audit "units" have been publicly posted
  - independent, non-partisan and politically balanced oversight body for overseeing Utah’s election audits by having knowledgeable, respected persons select its members. Suggested membership includes: mathematicians or statisticians to ensure the statistical validity of the audit procedures; computer scientists, computer engineers, or computer security experts to assist the committee to understand how voting machines work; political scientists; financial auditors; representatives of the top three political parties; persons who have served as poll workers or election judges; members of the press; and state and county election officials. The oversight body should select the batches of ballots to be audited and review and approve the audit findings.
- the selection of the batches of votes to be audited and the audits themselves should occur in settings where the public and candidates may observe
- a 28 day canvass period to allow ample time to audit all ballot types during the canvass period
- retention of election materials necessary to evaluate the integrity of the electoral process for the 24 month federal retention period required by the National Voter Registration Act and then archiving election records for historical analysis and research
- an independent expert study of Utah’s voting and election systems to evaluate ballot privacy, vote counting accuracy, ability to audit vote counts, ballot security, accessibility and reliability of performance, data-sharing capacity, administrative efficiency and other tenets of elections

A detailed election law change request is posted on-line at http://utahcountvotes.org/legislature/UTLegislativeElectionReform.pdf

Please Help Kathy Dopp, Founder of Utah Count Votes, and Alice Steiner, Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Utah to pass this legislation by contacting your Utah Representatives and Senators, and/or arranging meetings with them. http://www.utah.gov/government/legislative.html

If you would like to be emailed a copy or talk, please email kathy@utahcountvotes.org or call 435-658-4657