

Proponent Oral Virtual Testimony on House Bill 2486

House Committee on Elections

Davis Hammet – Loud Light Civic Action

February 10, 2022

Chair Bergquist, Members of the Committee,

Codify Internet Connection Prohibition

House Bill 2486 would mainly codify into statute regulations that already exist to prohibit voting machines from being connected to the internet or any other communications network.

Regulate Electronic Poll Books

The bill requires the Secretary of State to set standards and approve electronic poll books.

Post-Election Tests Within 5-Days of Canvass

The bill requires the econtronic voting equipment post-election tests to occur within 5 days of the election canvass.

Minor Concern: Lack of SoS Certification Deadline

I do have a minor concern about the lack of a deadline for the Secretary of State to have certification standards set or any related rules and regulations established given that the bill goes into effect July 1st.

Minor Concern: Non-Compliant Counties

Before passing this bill, it should be established if all counties are currently able to comply with the bill given its effective date. Smaller counties that may not currently be able to comply may likewise be unable to acquire new equipment in time to comply before upcoming elections. It's critical to remember the financial costs of these bills are borne by counties without assistance from the state.

In all, it seems the bill will not technically change much since these practices are already standard; however, it may improve perceptions and help to counter election disinformation.

I recommend this committee confirm all counties are able to comply before the August election and then pass HB 2486. I'm happy to stand for any questions when appropriate. Thank you,

Davis Hammet

President, Loud Light Civic Action