

From: [Be Heard Ventura](#)
To: [ClerkoftheBoard](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53
Date: Sunday, January 21, 2024 3:04:26 PM

WARNING: If you believe this message may be malicious use the Phish Alert Button to report it or forward the message to Email.Security@ventura.org.

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors and Recorder/Registrar Michelle Ascencion,

I am writing to express my deep concerns regarding the current state of transparency in our election process in Ventura County. The recent shift to the Voters Choice Act and the use of electronic tabulation machines have raised serious questions about the integrity and security of our voting system. As a concerned resident and advocate for transparency in our democratic process, I am urging the Board of Supervisors to take immediate action to restore trust by reverting to the "One Day Polling Place Precinct Voting Model" with paper ballot hand counting.

The current Election Administration Plan (EAP) has introduced uncertainties in the voting process, particularly concerning the security of dropboxes, electronic tabulation machines, and the rising costs associated with mail-in balloting. These factors not only cast doubt on the validity of the results but also compromise the fundamental principles of transparency and citizen participation.

To address these concerns, I propose the following measures:

- Return to One Day Polling Place Precinct Voting: Reinstate the traditional model of one-day voting at polling places to allow for increased visibility, accountability, and participation of the electorate.
- Paper Ballot Hand Counting: Implement a system of hand counting paper ballots, ensuring a transparent and verifiable counting process that involves the active participation of the community.
- Regular Reporting on Voter Registration Maintenance: Enhance transparency by instituting monthly reports on the Registrar of Voters' processes for cleaning and maintaining voter rolls, with weekly updates during the 30 days preceding an election.
- Validation of Late or Same-Day Registrations: Establish a clear and publicized process for validating provisional ballots cast by voters registering on Election Day, and provide regular reports on the outcomes of these validations.
- Preventive Measures for Ballot Verification: Introduce methods to verify voter registration before mailing out ballots, addressing reports of multiple ballots sent to the same address or ballots intended for individuals not residing there.

I respectfully request that the Board of Supervisors prioritize the restoration of transparency in our election process by considering the aforementioned measures. The integrity of our democratic system relies on the trust and active participation of the

community, and these steps will contribute to rebuilding that trust.

I urge you to add an agenda item to discuss these critical issues promptly, with the ultimate goal of submitting an amended Election Administration Plan to the State for approval. Let Ventura County be a beacon of transparency and citizen engagement, setting an example for other counties across the state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to seeing Ventura County take a bold stand for election transparency and the democratic rights of its residents.

Sincerely,

Samantha - Ventura