

The People's Vote Must Count – Are you sick and tired of not

*Are you fed up with corporate electronic voting machines secretly determining elections?
No matter what party you belong to, your vote should count – and be publicly verifiable.*



NO COMPUTER VOTING

Join the Alliance for Democracy's call for a community-based "People's Vote Must Count" campaign. Help create a national network of citizen activists working to implement paper ballot voting to stop the theft of our elections and restore transparency and public oversight. See all of our campaign materials at www.peoplesvotemustcount.org

To Launch a "People's Vote Must Count" Campaign Suggested Steps:

First, get out the word about ways voting machines, even the machines that count paper ballots, can be used to steal elections. Gather like-minded friends, colleagues and representatives to support the alternative of hand-counted paper ballots.

- Use this *Justice Rising* as a study guide to look at how the campaign for hand-counted paper ballots fits into the larger picture of needed electoral reform.
- Organize house parties and public events to show documentary movies like *Hacking Democracy* (2006) or *I Voted?* (2016).

Second, as you build your campaign,

- Reach out to unlikely allies to support your efforts — people from other political parties and groups working on different issues requiring a legislative vote.
- Engage professionally with your local election officials. You want them to provide you information and not to feel attacked or accused.

AfD Organizing to Rescue our Democracy

Starting in 1999, AfD organized "Democracy Brigades" in the Capitol Rotunda to speak out that "big money" in politics was corrupting policy-making to favor the elite. Brigade members discovered their First Amendment right to free speech and assembly are suspended in the House of the People. Police arrested them for unlawful assembly.

In February 2000, AfD Co-chair Ronnie Dugger welcomed Doris "Granny D" Haddock at the Capitol steps after her 18-month cross-country walk for campaign finance reform that raised national and Congressional support for passage of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 (McCain Feingold), which was overturned by the Supreme Court's 2010 *Citizens United* decision.

At each AfD convention from 2000 on, advocates for campaign finance legislation, election reform and voting rights were featured as plenary speakers and workshops were offered. Following the 2000 election debacle, AfD's Honest & Clean Elections campaign was launched to sound the alarm and prepare for election fraud in 2004.

In 2005, the National Summit to Save Our Elections: A Call to Rescue Our Democracy was organized by the Oregon Voter Rights Coalition and AfD's, Portland, OR Chapter.

AfD's first *Justice Rising*, Spring 2005, "Creating Honest Elections: The Problem, The People, The Solution," included articles by David Cobb on the "New Voting Rights Movement," Paul Lehto on the corporate privatization of our electoral system, and Ronnie Dugger on AfD's involvement in the Ohio recount.



Third, study the election process in your town, city, or county to show ways people's votes are not secure.

- Form a non-partisan task force representative of your community.
- Document the chain of custody for ballots and machines.
- Identify the corporation(s) providing the machines and the contract for purchase or lease and repair.
- Investigate breakdowns/repairs.
- Report any evidence of financial and vendor contract irregularities, voter suppression, suspected fraud, or rigged elections.

Fourth, write a well-documented report with findings and recommendations to submit to your town, city or county council and election officials to make the case for hand-counted paper ballots.

Fifth, introduce legislation or an initiative calling for hand-counted paper ballots. Develop campaign materials and put together a team of organizers from among the partners you have developed. Resources include the book *Hands-On Elections* by Nancy Tobi. Other resources can be found at www.peoplesvotemustcount.org

Sixth, if your political jurisdiction is not yet ready to implement hand-counted paper ballots, consider implementing a HCPB process in one precinct to demonstrate this process is both reliable and doable. This depends on the size of your town, city or county.

Be sure to report your organizing to Barbara Clancy (afd@thealliancefordemocracy.org), AfD's national campaign coordinator, who will document what is going on around the country.

