

From: **LWV of South Carolina** lwwsc.cml@gmail.com  
Subject: Action Alert! Please call your senator about our voting system TODAY  
Date: January 30, 2019 at 2:04 AM  
To:



# **LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SOUTH CAROLINA **ACTION ALERT**



**Call your Senator today -- insist on a transparent process for choosing our new voting system!**

Please call your Senator [redacted]

Phone(s): [redacted] Use the legislative office phone to give a message to a friendly staff person.

You may Email: [redacted]

Put **CONSTITUENT** in the Subject line.

Read the [Background Explanation](#) below -- and then, here are talking points!

- > **The SC's approach to choosing a new voting system is secretive; it must be opened to public input and scrutiny.**
  
- > **Please schedule continued meetings to consider other bills (such as S.374) and debate this issue before appropriating any funds for a new system.**
  
- > **If necessary, terminate the existing RFP; public hearings should have been held before it was issued.**

**> We need a system of hand-marked paper ballots, optically scanned at the precinct. Can't be hacked, can be audited, and half the cost!**

## Background Explanation

In contrast to other locations nationwide where similar decisions are being made, in South Carolina there have been no public hearings, expert testimony, or legislative debate preceding issuance in December of a request for proposals (RFP) for a new system. We are told that proposals are to be reviewed this spring by a panel appointed from among the staff of the State Election Commission (SEC) with the addition of two local officials chosen by the SEC. The entire decision as of now is thus effectively in the hands of the Director of the SEC and her hand-selected individuals. This is extraordinary, and it is not how the state should proceed. We deserve a more open process.

We know that this is a decision that needs to be made and made soon. Public hearings should have been begun long ago. Sadly, they were not. But this decision is too important to be made in the dark, if only because it involves a purchase using tens of millions of taxpayer dollars. We ask our legislators to put the brakes on the current Request for Proposals (RFP) process, pending legislative consideration of the alternatives. We ask them to decide that our voting future should take advantage of the expertise that is available. We ask them to ensure that South Carolina has the voting system that it needs, so that we can all have confidence that our votes will be counted as intended.

A Senate subcommittee has been assigned to study bills that would shape the choice of a new system. Your senator is one of those on that subcommittee. Please call or write your senator and ask him or her to meet for thorough hearings. Also, ask for consideration of S. 374, filed by Senator Thomas Alexander of Oconee. Senator Alexander's bill reflects the League's position in favor of a voting system based on hand-marked paper ballots optically scanned in the precinct, accompanied by risk limiting audits.

Please act soon. The integrity of our elections deserves public hearings!

*Copyright © 2019 LWVSC, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

League of Women Voters of South Carolina  
PO Box 8453  
Columbia, SC 29202

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

