

4825 Bayfield Terrace  
Madison WI 53705  
May 10, 2005

Dear Members of the Special Committee on Election Law Review:

Please consider adding the following to your election reform package. This is a simple, low cost way to help pinpoint where errors might occur.

**Each municipal and county clerk should be required to publish the following ward-by-ward information along with the election results, before review by the board of canvassers.**

- **Number of undervotes at each ward**
- **Total ballots cast at each ward**
- **Serial number issued to the final voter at each ward**

This data will help to answer basic questions.

- Are voters being disenfranchised through technicalities, poor ballot construction, or tabulator errors?
- Are polling place procedures adequate to ensure that the ballot count equals the voter count?

Detailed data like this will help answer questions about the gaps in counts that occurred in Milwaukee.

Months after the November 2004 election, the city of Medford realized that 27% of the votes were not counted. The shocking part is that no one noticed it – not the city clerk, not the county clerk, not the board of canvassers, and not the State Elections Board. It was brought to light by a private company months after the election. See the Wausau Daily Herald of March 12, 2005.

One of the best ways to ensure election integrity is to expose the entire process to sunlight. Publishing this data promptly, preferably on websites, will be a big step towards exposing situations that undermine confidence in the election process.

Thanks,

Paul Malischke