



National Campaign For  
**FAIR ELECTIONS**  
[www.nationalcampaignforfairelections.org](http://www.nationalcampaignforfairelections.org)

Regarding the introduction of Congressman Rush Holt's "Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act," Barbara R. Arnwine, Executive Director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, released the following statement:

"We commend Congressman Holt for continuing the crucial conversation on how to make our elections more responsive to the will of America's voters. Each election cycle, the Lawyers' Committee is proud to serve as the lead legal organization in Election Protection, the nation's largest non-partisan voter protection program. Frustration with voter technology is consistently one of the largest problems reported to Election Protection volunteers answering the 1-866-OUR-VOTE voter service hotline, many of these reports detailing widespread disenfranchisement and voter confusion.

"Responsive and effective elections are the right of every eligible American. To ensure that right, there must be comprehensive and meaningful reform of how our elections are administered. The Congress plays a central role in that process. Mr. Holt's bill addresses a key element to that reform by demanding needed improvements to voting machines; allowing voters to verify their ballots in a way that protects accessibility for people with disabilities and language minority voters. The bill makes the voters interests – and not the profits of the machine company – the focus of the election machine business by requiring voting machine companies to disclose the source codes used in the machines they manufacture. Finally, the bill requires mandatory audits of election results, which we think moves us towards restoring public faith in the veracity of election results.

"Mr. Holt's bill is a good start. We look forward to working with Mr. Holt and his colleagues in Congress to find a realistic and effective way to address these very real problems voters face while ensuring that HAVA's promise of accessibility for voters with disabilities and language minority voters is honored."

