

THE TORCH

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Last Chance to Stay Free: Secure Our Elections Now!

By **Beth Biesel**, Texas Eagle Forum Election Integrity Chair, 1/29/22

A little more than a year ago, the *Torch* published an article entitled “Last Call: Secure Our Elections Now!” Sadly, the Texas legislature failed spectacularly in this effort. The 87th Legislature came and went with no election integrity bills, as did the first and second Special Sessions. Finally, in the third Special Session, with back room deals and cries of “trust us” from our legislators, we got what Governor Abbott calls “the best election law in the country.” To the contrary, what we got with SB1 is a disaster, and our Republican legislators are taking no

responsibility for the disaster they created.

They have no excuse! We were very clear about wanting to get the electronic devices out of the election process and why doing so is of the utmost importance, but our pleas fell on deaf ears. Is this fight worth having? You bet it is. Is there ample evidence to support our insistence on getting the computers out of the election process? You bet there is.

Nevertheless, if you are still unsure about whether or not it’s worth all the trouble to go back to voting without computers, ask yourself these questions:

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1. Do I really know my ballot was recorded according to the way I voted?
2. Do I really know my ballot was tabulated according to the way I voted?
3. Do I really know that the names of the voters in the electronic poll book are legitimately qualified voters?
4. Do I believe that the electronic poll books and other voting equipment have not been tampered with before or during an election?
5. What do I know about the security mechanisms in place to prevent an outside cyber intruder from hacking into the county's or Secretary of State's voter registration database? Or the county's tabulation system? Or the early voting check-in database?
6. Do I know if there is a mechanism in place to forensically audit an election, should the need arise?
7. Do I even know what a proper forensic audit would look like? Has the Texas Legislature specifically defined what a reliable forensic audit would look like? (No, they have not.)

Is there not enough doubt about our electronic election system to warrant a closer look at the major attack surfaces so that we can fix what's broken? The facts of cyber fraud are overwhelming and need to be addressed. Regrettably, ever since November 3, 2020, the naysayers on the Democrat and Republican side have dismissed the evidence of wholesale election fraud as being debunked. If we are to take them seriously, we must first ask them to show us their debunking evidence. I've not seen any to date. Second, we must ask the debunkers to tell us precisely what kind of evidence of fraud they would consider acceptable? Again, crickets. They've made their claim, but they haven't made their case.

Following our own standards for making a legitimate case, it is incumbent upon us to do it differently from the naysayers. We must make the claim and the case by backing it up with factual, measurable, observable data. This article will do just that, as well as outline what must be done sooner than later to stop our elections from being stolen.

We begin with the assertion that the facts of fraud are overwhelming and that SBI is a terrible bill because it does not address the major fraud vectors in our electronic election systems. Trying to make our election system more secure, we've made it more complex by introducing computer-based systems. By making it more complex, we've made it less secure. We have unwittingly handed over the power of the ballot box to people unknown to us and placed our electoral trust in a black box—a black box of complex computer infrastructure that not even the county election administrators can totally operate on their own. The voters don't understand it, the counties can't secure it, the Secretary of State (SOS) can't audit it, and the legislators can't write legislation to protect it.

With the expansion of a more and more centrally controlled electronic election system, we get illegitimate office holders who are intent on destroying the most free and wonderful nation on planet earth. Child trafficking, open borders, Critical Race

Theory, Transgenderism, wrecked economy, education indoctrination, rising taxes and gas prices, begging the question: how did we get here? The answer is painful. We got here by digitizing everything: poll books, ballots, voter check-in records, voter signatures, tabulation, and statewide voter rolls. The hard truth of the matter is that digital records are very easy to manipulate, while paper books and ballots are not. When computers are running every aspect of our election system, it's not a matter of if an outside intruder can change vote results or voter rosters, but when and how much damage can be done.

While election perfection is not the criteria, maximizing election honesty and voter confidence is. People are more likely to vote when they have confidence in their ballot.

“The hard truth of the matter is that digital records are very easy to manipulate while paper books and ballots are not.”

In America, we have ample reason to lack confidence in our ballot. Examples abound: margin of error greater than margin of victory; patents to monitor voting and adjudicate a ballot any way you want it; votes exceed ballots cast; error messages that are deemed irrelevant by the election station manager so he clicks on “ignore;” voter check-in records purged during early voting and then different voter check-ins records added back; vast numbers of voters casting ballots without proper credentials (some identification numbers are non-existent and some are filled in with all zeros.) The Texas Secretary of State did what they called a “full forensic audit.” It was not. Even so, they found over 700,000 illegitimate voters who voted in 2020 and subsequently had their voting record erased.* To add insult to injury, the Texas SOS has changed its voter registration database no less than three times since the 2020 Presidential election, evidently unaware that it is a felony to change a state record.

If it's not bad enough that the electronic poll books are on a server in the cloud, with no serious level of security measures in place, it's definitely bad that the status of inactive, suspended, and deceased voters is changed to active and then changed back to their original status after they have voted. When a county elections department reports twenty-two names of people as having voted in-person at a particular vote center, when, in fact those individuals did not vote there in-person, one must wonder what impact that fraudulent injection of cast ballots would have county-wide and state-wide. If you do the math, the conclusions are horrifying.

As said before, SBI fails miserably for not removing the computers from the election process, but other failures in the

bill must be called out as well. The bill reduces illegal voting from a Felony to a Class A Misdemeanor. It does not require sequentially numbered, preprinted ballots. Voting hours are expanded. The Governor and the SOS can still issue waivers and executive orders changing existing election law, ignoring the fact that the Constitution only allows the Legislature to make law.

Poll watchers took heavy losses in SB1. Even though they have no prescribed duties, they will be required to take an oath, thereby increasing their risk level and putting a chilling effect on their work. They will be required to take poll watcher training from the SOS's office, which reduces our ability to respond quickly to a need for poll watchers and lowers the bar for what we believe poll watchers must do. Finally, poll watchers were given standing in a previous election bill, but the language was struck in SB1.

Early voting was not limited, nor was the gap between early voting and Election Day, which leaves the door wide open for four plus days of manipulating the vote results. Printing early vote result tapes would have been a major win in SB1, but somehow that provision was removed unbeknownst to legislators who supported it. The Dallas County GOP Executive Committee passed a resolution on January 17, 2022, requiring the printing of early vote result tapes. This is a historic opportunity for voters to have a paper audit trail to memorialize (but not reveal) the results, where we can prove that the declared results of early voting are actually the true and correct results. A copy of this resolution can be found on the [texaseagleforum.com](https://www.texaseagleforum.com) website.

Even though the news looks very bleak, be encouraged that many patriots across the nation are working hard to expose the fraud and stop it from happening again. Their work has been extremely successful thus far, with more victories on the way.

Texans must rise to the occasion and get to work. We know what to do; now is the time to execute. A longer list of action items can be found on the [texaseagleforum.com](https://www.texaseagleforum.com) website, but please read the shorter list below and find your place on the battlefield!

1. We need every able-bodied man and woman to work in the Primary elections, both during early voting and Election Day. You can serve as a judge, clerk, or poll watcher.
2. We need to double or triple the typical voter turnout for Republican voters. Newly-elected Virginia Governor Youngkin credits his surprise victory to extraordinarily high Republican voter turnout.
3. Go to your precinct convention, senatorial district convention, and perhaps the State Convention, with resolutions and get these secure election measures in our party platform priorities. If we have your email address, TEF will be sending you sample resolutions prior to Election Day, March 1.
4. Write the justices on the Criminal Court of Appeals to ask them to re-hear the case that removed Attorney General Ken Paxton's ability to prosecute election fraud.
5. Sign up to help canvass your neighborhood so we can gather first-hand information about the legitimacy of the voter rolls.
6. Attend the data-rich and solution-rich Election Integrity Symposium on April 30th.
7. Bring your favorite elected official and candidate to see the evidence of fraud and learn how we can stop it.

* sos.texas.gov/about/forms/9-28-21-forensic-audit-summary.pdf

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UN Gives Cash to U.S.-Bound Illegals

The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), which receives billions in U.S. taxpayer money, is providing cash assistance to U.S.-bound illegal migrants, according to the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS). The UN is sharply escalating the amounts of cash and other direct financial assistance to immigrants all along the migrant trail from Panama to Texas, at an uncharted series of some 100 waystations, as part of a program called "cash-based interventions."

Speaking from Mexico, Todd Bensman, the Center's Senior National Security Fellow, said, "Word of the UN handing out cash debit cards has spread and the office here in Tapachula ... draws long lines of hopeful U.S.-bound migrants every day. This money allows migrants to continue their journey to the U.S. border, rather than

returning home, and acts as a magnet encouraging other migrants to make the arduous journey."

Families can receive hundreds of dollars a month for "unrestricted ... unconditional" use in local country areas depending on where they are on the trail. The UN spent \$60 million on the program in 2019, doubled the outlay in 2020, and plans to vastly increase its use in the Americas during 2022 and beyond.

Texas Rep. Lance Gooden and 11 other House Republicans have introduced the "No Tax Dollars for the United Nations Immigration Invasion Act," H.R. 6155, which would prohibit the \$3.8 billion in contributions currently proposed in the White House's 2022 budget to UN-supported organizations.

SOURCE: CIS, 1/20/22



Lubbock Citizens Win Against Planned Parenthood

On May 5, 2021, citizens of Lubbock passed a city ordinance making it a sanctuary city for the unborn. One month later, after a federal district judge dismissed Planned Parenthood’s lawsuit citing lack of standing, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas agreed to stop performing abortions at their Lubbock clinic and appealed the decision. However on January 21, 2022, they voluntarily withdrew their appeal making Lubbock the first city since *Roe v. Wade* to uphold legislation completely protecting the unborn.

SOURCE: Family Research Council, 1/27/22

Only 10% Of Pelosi’s Subpoenas Address January 6 “Riot”

It’s long been indicated that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s partisan commission assigned to investigate the Jan. 6 “riot” at the U.S. Capitol has other priorities than just that investigation. After all, among the first witnesses should have been Pelosi, who holds responsibility for the operations and security of the Capitol, and key federal law enforcement officers, to explain what FBI agents or informants were on hand, and what they were doing that day. But that’s not what’s happened so far. In fact, a new analysis published at *The Federalist* reveals that of the 84 subpoenas that have been issued publicly, “only eight have targeted individuals or groups with any connection to the Capitol ‘riot.’” Tristan Justice explains, “The rest have taken aim at former government officials and private citizens in a smear campaign for exercising their constitutional right to protest.” One target said, “... this is nothing more than harassment of the committee’s political opponents and is un-American to the core.”

SOURCE: Bob Unruh, *World Net Daily*, 1/20/22

Americans Don’t Want to Pay For the “Green New Deal”

The Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI) did a poll of 1,200 U.S. voters. While a strong majority of respondents said they are either somewhat or very concerned about climate change, 71 percent sent a strong message that they are unwilling to pay for it. Thirty-nine percent said they would not spend one dollar more than they already spend annually on gas or electricity to mitigate the effects of climate change. A majority of 56 percent said they were unlikely to spend extra money to replace their gas powered car with an electric vehicle, with 41 percent very unlikely and 15 percent somewhat unlikely to do so. When asked to rate the importance of climate change on a spectrum compared to other issues, it rated 11th on a list of 13. Other issues rated higher included jobs and the economy, immigration and border security, crime, and rising energy prices.

SOURCE: Jack Dini, “Climate Change: Lots of Fear But Reluctance to Pay,” *Canada Free Press*, 1/20/22

Open Doors List Top Persecutors Of Christians

Open Doors has updated its World Watch List of the top 50 countries where “it’s most difficult to follow Jesus.” David Curry, Open Doors CEO, says, “For 20 years North Korea has been at the top of the List because there you have a communist system led by a dictator, but now ... Afghanistan is officially the #1 worst persecutor of Christians.” Curry reports that since the abrupt withdrawal of the U.S. from Afghanistan in August 2021, the Taliban has made a concerted effort to track down underground Christians. “Afghanistan provides a clear example of a country in which flawed U.S. foreign policy directly stifles religious freedom and ignites the persecution of Christians,” said Curry. Rounding out the top five countries are Somalia, Libya, and Yemen. China is 17th.

Source: Open Doors, 1/22

Quote of the Month

“Many people fought and gave their lives to bring equality. And now we’re reverting back to identity politics. And as we continue to do that, we’re bringing more division into our country.”

~ Dr. Ben Carson
criticizing President Biden for sticking to his commitment to nominate a black woman to the Supreme Court, 1/27/22

Great American Quote

“The time is now near at hand which must probably determine whether Americans are to be freemen or slaves.... Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us only the choice of brave resistance, or the most abject submission.”

~ General George Washington addressing the Continental Army before the Battle of Long Island in 1776.

Texas Eagle Forum

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