

**RESOLUTION NO. 056-09**

**VOTER CONFIDENCE RESOLUTION  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCATA**

**WHEREAS**, an election is a competition for the privilege of representing the people; and

**WHEREAS**, each voter is entitled to cast a single ballot to record his or her preferences for representation; and

**WHEREAS**, the records of individual votes are the basis for counting and potentially recounting a collective total and declaring a winner; and

**WHEREAS**, an election's outcome is a matter of public record, based on a finite collection of immutable smaller records; and

**WHEREAS**, a properly functioning election system should produce unanimous agreement about the results indicated by a fixed set of unchanging records; and

**WHEREAS**, recent U.S. federal elections have been conducted under conditions that have not produced unanimous agreement about the outcome; and

**WHEREAS**, future U.S. federal elections cannot possibly produce unanimous agreement as long as any condition permits an inconclusive count or recount of votes; and

**WHEREAS**, inconclusive counts and recounts have occurred during recent U.S. federal elections due in part to electronic voting devices that do not produce a paper record of votes to be recounted if necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, inconclusive results have also been caused by election machines losing data, producing negative vote totals, showing more votes than there are registered voters, and persistently and automatically swapping a voter's vote from his or her chosen candidate to an opponent; and

**WHEREAS**, inconclusive results make it impossible to measure the will of the people in their preferences for representation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Declaration of Independence refers to the Consent of the Governed as the self-evident truth from which Government derives "just Power".

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** because inconclusive results, by definition, mean that the true outcome of an election cannot be known, there is no basis for confidence in the results reported from U.S. federal elections.

**THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** the following is a comprehensive election reform platform likely to ensure conclusive election results and create a basis for confidence in U.S. federal elections:

- 1) voting processes owned and operated entirely in the public domain, and
- 2) clean money laws to keep all corporate funds out of campaign financing, and
- 3) a voter verified paper ballot for every vote cast and additional uniform standards determined by a nonpartisan nationally recognized commission, and
- 4) declaring election day a national holiday, and
- 5) counting all votes publicly and locally in the presence of citizen witnesses and credentialed members of the media, and
- 6) equal time provisions to be restored by the media along with a measurable increase in local, public control of the airwaves, and
- 7) presidential debates containing a minimum of three candidates, run by a nonpartisan commission comprised of representatives of publicly owned media outlets, and
- 8) preferential voting and proportional representation to replace the winner-take-all system for federal elections;

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** when elections are conducted under conditions that prevent conclusive outcomes, the Consent of the Governed is not being sought. Absent this self-evident source of legitimacy, such Consent is not to be assumed or taken for granted.

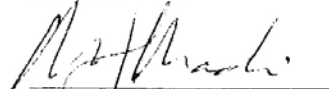
This resolution shall be effective upon its adoption.

**DATED:** July 6, 2005

**ATTESTED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk, City of Arcata

**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of Arcata

**Clerk's Certificate**

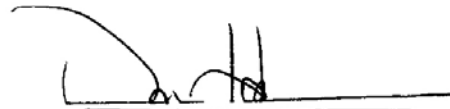
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 056-09, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Arcata, Humboldt County, California, held on July 20, 2005, by the following vote:

**AYES:** Groves, Meserve, Pitino.

**NOES:** Wheetley, Machi.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ABSTENTIONS:** None.

  
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City Clerk, City of Arcata