

**STATEMENT OF CHRISTOPHER S. BOND**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION**  
**HEARING ON VOTE FRAUD**

Chairman Feinstein, Ranking Member Bennett, and Members of the Committee, thank you for allowing me to participate today.

Vote fraud is alive and well in America. The only question for us is - Are we willing to stop it?

Unfortunately, we have a long history manipulated elections in Missouri. I witnessed this firsthand when my opponent in my first race for Governor tried to keep the polls open late in St. Louis.

We were again the victim of vote fraud in the 2000 general election. Again, there was a coordinated attempt to keep polls open late on Election Day. Nearly identical court filings were filed simultaneously in St. Louis and Kansas City to extend voting.

Miraculously, prerecorded robocalls went out to potential voters asking them to come to the polls for late voting. This was not a random event, but a prearranged, organized conspiracy to manipulate the vote outcome. We later came to know that the lawsuit swearing under oath that a person was denied his constitutional right to vote was on behalf of a person who was either dead or did not exist.

Unfortunately, that led to newspaper editorial cartoons describing a St. Louis voting booth to include caskets for the dead. A post-election review of voter rolls revealed tens of thousands of persons found to be registered in more than one jurisdiction.

That vote fraud foundation turned into vote fraud fact when we found record of hundreds of felons, non-residents, and those not legally entitled to vote in the election in fact cast ballots.

Soon after, I introduced legislation to combat vote fraud by helping states improve voter roll accuracy, add mail-in voter registration safeguards, and give states more power to clean voter rolls.

As this Committee is well aware, the sorry state of America's 2000 voting practices spurred national action, which resulted in the Help America Vote Act signed into law in 2002. I was proud to take part in that effort to make it "easier to vote, but harder to cheat."

After this, some say that there is no need to go any further, the voting rolls have been scrubbed and everything is clean now. Sadly, this is far from true.

One organization, going by the name ACORN or Project Vote, is a professional vote fraud enterprise. In the last four years, ACORN workers have been convicted, discovered or reported engaging in fraudulent voter registration in Wisconsin, Virginia, Texas, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Ohio, New Mexico, and North Carolina.

Last year, three ACORN workers in Kansas City plead guilty to federal charges of vote fraud in the form of filing false voter registration paperwork. They were busy completing the first of two steps in any vote fraud scheme. First, get someone to file fraudulent voter registration paperwork. Then, step two, get someone to vote fraudulently based on that fraudulent voter registration.

The hearing today tries to convince us that we need look only at step two to determine whether vote fraud is occurring. The assertion is that the only true test of vote fraud is whether people are caught voting fraudulently in person.

Conveniently, of course, this is most difficult part of the equation. Because, if you do not know if the registration is fraudulent, and you refuse to ensure through a photo ID that the person voting is not the person who filed the fraudulent voter registration, then it is almost impossible to catch in-person voter fraud.

One person a photo ID requirement most certainly would catch is this person here. This is was the voter registration card for Ritzy Mekler of 4215 Utah St., St. Louis, Missouri. As you can see Ritzy's birthday is filled in, place of birth, and her social security number. One might even conclude that Ritzy is left handed, because the slant of the letters to the left.

But if you had ever met Ritzy, you would know that she could not be left handed - but she could be left "pawed." That is because Ritzy Mekler is a dog! Here is a picture of me with Ritzy when she came to visit. I am the one on the right. As you can tell, it was an exciting day for Ritzy, smelling members, licking faces, getting free bones.

You know, I never even asked Ritzy whether she was a Democrat dog or a Republican dog. Of course, stopping vote fraud should not be a Republican or Democrat issue. When vote fraud occurs, it dilutes the votes of both Democrats and Republicans. It takes away the fundamental rights of both Democrats and Republicans.

For those concerned with whether requiring a photo ID requirement takes away a fundamental right, you should know that opponents to the Indiana photo ID law were unable to present a single person who was prevented from voting because of the law.

Indeed, showing an ID is a universal feature of modern life. Cashing a check, renting a movie, boarding a plane, all require a photo ID. And for those who do not have one, photo ID laws now require States to provide photo IDs at no cost to anyone shown in such need.

No, the time for excuses really is over. Americans need confidence in their elections and they need confidence in their vote. Something so important deserves no less. Thank you.

#####