

Brady-Chaired Congressional Committee Passes Voting Reform Bill

PHILADELPHIA --- Congressman Robert A. Brady (D., PA), Interim Chair of the House Administration Committee, today led the committee in moving H.R. 811, the Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007 to the Floor. Congressman Brady is the Committee's acting chair as a result of the death of Rep. Juanita Millender -McDonald.

The bill, sponsored by Congressman Rush Holt (D., NJ), requires that all voting equipment produce a paper ballot that can be verified by the voter and also serves as the official ballot in any recount or audit. As a federal requirement, it mandates that each state set up special audit boards separate from existing voting administration systems and requires that they carry out an audit of each federal election by sampling select precincts for discrepancies between electronic vote counts and hand counts of paper ballots.

"This bill will instill integrity in the voting process. It is important to our democracy that every vote must count," said Congressman Brady.