

New Ideas On Reforming Election Procedures: How Can We Make Sure That Everyone's Vote *Counts*?

Moderator

John C. Bonifaz is the founder of the National Voting Rights Institute ("NVRI") and serves as a Senior Legal Fellow at Demos in its Democracy Program. Mr. Bonifaz is also an Adjunct Lecturer in Public Policy at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, teaching a course on advocating for democracy in the United States, and served as NVRI's Executive Director from 1994-2004, and then as its general counsel from 2004-2006. In 2004, Mr. Bonifaz led the fight in the federal courts in Ohio for a recount of the presidential vote in that state. As a Senior Legal Fellow at Demos (with which NVRI is now formally affiliated), Mr. Bonifaz is focusing significant attention on voting technology matters and is serving as co-counsel for Voter Action on behalf of a coalition of voters contesting the 2006 congressional election in Sarasota County, Florida. Mr. Bonifaz is a 1992 *cum laude* graduate of Harvard Law School and a 1999 recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship.

Panelists

Stanley J. Eichner is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Disability Law Center ("DLC") and has been a civil rights attorney for over 32 years. He was lead counsel in the DLC's agreement with Fleet Bank, Sovereign Bank and Citizens Bank, ensuring that their ATMs and written materials were accessible to blind and visually-impaired customers. Previously, he initiated and directed the Massachusetts Attorney General's Disability Rights Project. He is a frequent lecturer on disability rights, and is co-editor of the two-volume treatise *The Legal Rights of Individuals with Disabilities*. He has litigated civil rights cases at every level of state and federal courts, including *Hensley v. Eckerhart* in the United States Supreme Court, and *Commonwealth v. Adams* in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

Jocelyn Lippert is the Chief of Staff for Massachusetts State Representative Jay R. Kaufman (D-Lexington) and the Joint Committee on Public Service, which Representative Kaufman chairs. As Chief of Staff, Ms. Lippert oversees the operations for the Representative Kaufman's legislative program, constituent services, media relations, and committee responsibilities. Ms. Lippert has also had a direct role in helping to enact legislation to reform Massachusetts election procedures. Ms. Lippert previously worked for the League of Conservation Voters in Portland, Oregon, and for the Northwest Justice Project in Seattle, Washington. Ms. Lippert graduated from Yale with a B.A. in Latin American Studies.

Donna L. Palermino is a founding member of Citizens for Voting Integrity, a local group of election reform activists that has assisted in the drafting of two bills recently filed in the Massachusetts legislature seeking a ban on direct recording electronic voting systems, and requiring regular audits of federal and state elections. Ms. Palermino is a thirteen-year veteran of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, and she also served as a Supreme Court Fellow at the National Association of Attorneys General. Ms. Palermino is a Director and Clerk of the Board of the ACLU of Massachusetts and a member of its Science and Technology Law Committee, and she currently teaches law at Suffolk University Law School and Northeastern University Law School.

David M. Scanlan is the New Hampshire Deputy Secretary of State and has been in the post since 2002. In addition to Elections, his responsibilities include general oversight of Corporations, Archives and Records Management, Securities and Vital Records. Prior to his tenure in the N.H. State Department, Mr. Scanlan served eight terms in the New Hampshire House of Representatives, served on numerous policy committees and held the positions of Majority Leader and Majority Whip. He was named a Toll Fellow by the Council of State Governments in 1996. David is also a licensed forester and holds a forestry degree from West Virginia University.

The **American Constitution Society for Law and Policy** (ACS) is one of the nation's leading progressive legal organizations. Founded in 2001, ACS is comprised of law students, lawyers, scholars, judges, policymakers, activists and other concerned individuals who are working to ensure that the fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice are in their rightful, central place in American law. The American Constitution Society is a non-partisan, non-profit educational organization.

Student Chapters are at the heart of the American Constitution Society. ACS began with a chapter organized by law students at Georgetown University. Now we have more than 80 chapters on campuses across the country. Through our Student Chapters, law students gain a greater understanding of the legitimacy of a vision of the law that gives human values a central place.

ACS also has **Lawyer Chapters** in over a dozen locations, including **Boston**, with more on the way. The Lawyer Chapters are comprised of lawyers, scholars, judges, policymakers, activists and other concerned individuals who are working to ensure that the fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality and access to justice are accorded their rightful, central place in American law.

The **ACS Boston Lawyer Chapter** is composed of attorneys in private practice as well as the public sector. The Boston Lawyer Chapter has sponsored numerous events since its launch several years ago, including events on such topics as: de-politicizing the judicial selection process; the rights of Guantánamo detainees; the Roberts nomination and the new Supreme Court; discrimination in Federal jury pool selection; the "radicalization" of the Federal judiciary; the Alito nomination and the future of reproductive rights; and Representative Barney Frank on the future of progressive politics.

For more information on the ACS Boston Lawyer Chapter - and to join us - please contact **Rob Whitney**, at rawhitney@gmail.com.

**American Constitution Society
for Law and Policy**
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The Boston Lawyer Chapter of the American Constitution Society, in conjunction with the Suffolk University Law School Student Chapter of the American Constitution Society, present a panel discussion entitled:

New Ideas On Reforming Election Procedures: How Can We Make Sure That Everyone's Vote Counts?

Stanley J. Eichner, *Executive Director, Disability Law Center*

Jocelyn Lippert, *Chief of Staff to Massachusetts
State Representative Jay R. Kaufman*

Donna L. Palermino, *Adjunct Professor,
Suffolk University Law School, and*

David M. Scanlan, *New Hampshire
Deputy Secretary of State*

Moderated by **John C. Bonifaz**
*Founder of the National Voting Rights Institute
and Senior Legal Fellow at Demos*

Thursday, March 29, 2007, at 6:00 p.m.

**Suffolk University Law School
Boston, Massachusetts**