

From: [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Support for open-source voting system pilot legislation, file # 211303
Date: Thursday, February 3, 2022 2:02:17 PM

For file

Alisa Somera

Legislative Deputy Director
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
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(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 2:00 PM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors <[bos-supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:bos-supervisors@sfgov.org)>  
**Cc:** Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <[angela.calvillo@sfgov.org](mailto:angela.calvillo@sfgov.org)>; Mchugh, Eileen (BOS) <[eileen.e.mchugh@sfgov.org](mailto:eileen.e.mchugh@sfgov.org)>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <[alisa.somera@sfgov.org](mailto:alisa.somera@sfgov.org)>; Ng, Wilson (BOS) <[wilson.l.ng@sfgov.org](mailto:wilson.l.ng@sfgov.org)>; Laxamana, Junko (BOS) <[junko.laxamana@sfgov.org](mailto:junko.laxamana@sfgov.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: Support for open-source voting system pilot legislation, file # 211303

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**From:** Danny Laughlin <[info@email.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@email.actionnetwork.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 1:33 PM

**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org)>

**Subject:** Support for open-source voting system pilot legislation, file # 211303

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San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

As a San Francisco resident, I'm emailing to request that the Board of Supervisors support President Walton's legislation, File No. 211303, for a pilot project of an open-source paper ballot voting system in next November's election. I join with the nearly 2,000 San Francisco residents who have signed petitions for the development of an open-source voting system since 2018.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has been calling for an open-source voting system for over a decade because nothing is more important to democracy than confidence in the security and transparency of our elections. As former Governor Jerry Brown said recently, "These voting machines have to be...open to observation. We gotta know. There can be no obscurity here -- nothing, nothing hidden. That's what open source means. I'm all for it."

It is simply unacceptable that one commercial vendor using secret software has a monopoly on voting systems that San Francisco can use. Any modest cost that overseeing the pilot might require from the Department of Elections would be offset many times over by the millions of dollars that could be saved by breaking that monopoly with an open-source voting system -- not to mention that San Francisco would no longer have to spend millions of dollars developing its own open-source system.

So I urge the Board of Supervisors to pass President Walton's pilot legislation. A pilot program for the November election to prove the viability of an open-source voting system will help San Francisco lead California and the nation to more transparent and less costly elections!

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