
From the Office of Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz

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**SECRETARY BYSIEWICZ: STATEWIDE TOUR TO
DEMONSTRATE NEW VOTING TECHNOLOGY
WAS A "TREMENDOUS SUCCESS"**

*More than 1,000 people attended twenty demonstrations of new
optical scan technology*

Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz today expressed her thanks to the more than 1,000 people throughout Connecticut who attended the twenty (20) regional demonstrations of new optical scan voting technology that her office held between late August and mid-October.

"When we announced in August that twenty-five towns would begin using optical scan voting technology this year in place of lever machines, and the rest of the state would use these machines starting next year, we thought it wise to travel to every region of Connecticut to demonstrate the use of these new machines to local elections officials and concerned citizens. Our six-week tour is now concluded, and I have to say it was a tremendous success," Secretary Bysiewicz said. "Legislators, Mayors, First Selectmen, local election officials, and voters came out to get a look at the new machines and to see how they work. We were able to demonstrate the simplicity and security of optical scan technology and to answer any questions people had about them. It was a pleasure to meet with so many people from every corner of Connecticut, and I am very proud of my office putting together this statewide tour so quickly and effectively."

"We visited every corner of the state - from Danbury to Sharon, from Greenwich to Windham, from Enfield to Clinton, from New London to Bristol and many, many more - because we know just how important it is to give people a firm understanding of the voting technology we chose to ultimately replace our lever machines," Secretary Bysiewicz said. "I was heartened by how passionate Connecticut citizens are about voting and the elections process. I thank them for their dedication, and they will help to make Connecticut's future in new voting technology a bright one."

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"It was a great experience," Bristol Republican Registrar of Voters Ellie Klapatch said of the statewide demonstration. "As a registrar, I was so pleased to have these machines brought here for the public to see. The Secretary of the State has given people a chance to see how they will be voting in the future, and we very much appreciated it."

"Wilton has been using the optical scan machine to count absentee votes since the 2004 presidential election," Wilton Democratic Registrar of Voters Peggy Reeves said. "Thanks to the state's selection of the new machines to replace our lever machines, we look forward to introducing all Wilton voters to this technology, which will provide not only a secure and accurate method to cast ballots, but a permanent paper record for audit capability".

"We are very pleased the Secretary of the State's office took the time to come down here to show registrars how these machines are used, and to talk about the technology and why the state has chosen to go this route," Danbury Republican Registrar of Voters Mary Ann Doran said. "These demonstrations were very helpful."

REGIONAL OPTICAL SCAN VOTING MACHINE DEMONSTRATIONS

| DATE | LOCATION |
|--------------|--|
| August 22 | West Hartford Town Hall |
| August 24 | Greenwich Town Hall |
| August 29 | New Britain City Hall |
| August 30 | Torrington City Hall |
| September 5 | Enfield Town Hall |
| September 6 | New Haven City Hall |
| September 7 | Bridgeport City Hall Annex |
| September 14 | Sharon Town Hall |
| September 15 | Norwalk City Hall |
| September 18 | Riverfront Community Center, Glastonbury |
| September 21 | Meriden City Hall |
| September 22 | Bristol City hall |
| September 26 | New London City Hall |
| September 27 | Norwich City Hall |
| September 28 | Windham Town Hall |
| October 4 | Danbury City Hall |
| October 5 | Middletown City Hall |
| October 6 | Clinton Town Hall |
| October 11 | UConn-Waterbury Campus, Waterbury |
| October 12 | Stamford Government Center |

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