Public Comment Sought for Paper Ballot Plan

(Columbus) The Franklin County Board of Elections will meet Monday to adopt a resolution on how to distribute approximately 110,000 paper ballots among 856 voting precincts that will be open on March 4, 2008 for the Primary Election.

The secretary of state issued a recent directive for counties using electronic voting machines to give voters the option of casting their votes on paper at the polls on Election Day. The Board of Elections had previously voted to order 30,000 ballots for this purpose and also an additional 50,000 paper ballots to comply with a 2007 directive requiring provisional votes to be cast on paper. The staff proposal increases the number of paper ballots to more than 110,000 based upon precinct-level political party turnout for the 2000 and 2004 Presidential Primary Elections.

Citizens are invited to inspect the Election Day paper ballot distribution plan posted on the board’s Web site at http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov and share their ideas at the board’s next meeting. The meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 4 at 3 p.m. at the board’s offices at 280 E. Broad Street, Columbus.

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