

COMMENTS CONCERNING THE RECENT SBE RULING ON ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

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Talking points on Using Electronic Signatures for Absentee Ballot Request:

1. The ruling was the result of a request by Del. Bill Howell's campaign in his primary race.
2. My understanding is that electronic signatures as codified in VA does not correspond to electronic signatures in general use in the business world.
3. Typing a name and placing "(electronically signed)" or cutting and pasting a digitized signature block maintained by DMV, should not constitute an electronic signature.
4. Cutting and pasting my name on a document that I have not authorized, such as a check, would constitute fraud.
5. Allowing someone to type my name on the Absentee Ballot Application and place "(electronically signed)" to make it official is opening Virginia Elections to massive election fraud.
6. I would like to remind the Board of the mess created by the Voter Participation Center prior to the 2012 Presidential Election, where Federal Registration Cards were computer generated and filled in with "voter" data. These cards were sent to recipients all over the state including people that had moved out of state, people that had died, and people that were incapacitated. The filled in Federal Registration Card also included family pets that only needed a signature.
7. If this ruling is allowed to stand, VPC or another group, with the same pedigree, can generate bogus Absentee Ballot Applications for the entire voter roll of Virginia.
8. Since the Absentee Ballot Application allows for the mail-in-ballot to be sent anywhere in the world, this fraudulent request can be created and electronically signed, unbeknownst to the legitimate Virginia Voter. On Election Day, that person will not be allowed to vote because an absentee ballot will be outstanding against that voter's registration.
9. By allowing this ruling to stand, the Commonwealth is opening a door that can have grave consequences for all voters in Virginia. Creating a system that is easy to use, but does not consider election integrity, will result in wholesale disenfranchising of Virginia Citizens. This is **not** a goal worth achieving.

Thank you!