Do Electronic Voting Machines Improve the Voting Process?

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　　Many Americans vote electronically. Is that a problem? The topic of electronic voting machines is a highly debated issue in America. Electronic voting machines are used in State's elections to accurately count ballots more efficiently. In this ongoing debate, it is apparent that the proponents' argument is much stronger than the opponents' argument because they prove that direct recording electronic (DRE) machines are more secure and reliable; they provide accessibility to disabled voters; and they are easy to use.

　　Firstly, the proponents' argument is stronger than the opponents' argument because they prove that electronic voting machines (DRE) are more secure and reliable. For instance, the proponents state that "Hart's eSlate DRE voting units are extremely practical, portable, reliable, secure and field-hardened for effective deployment on the front lines of the election process." (3) This indicates that direct-recording electronic (DRE) systems offer more security and accuracy than the old fashion punched paper ballots.

　　Secondly, the proponents have a stronger argument in favor of electronic voting machines than the opponents because they provide accessibility to disabled voters. For example, the proponents claim that "AAPD" and the disability community are in favor of a voter having the ability to verify the accuracy of their vote and to change any vote before their ballot is cast" (5) This suggests that direct recording electronic machines (DRE) allows disabled voters to cast their vote more accurately and securely.

　　On the contrary, the opponents believe that electronic voting is a bad idea. They argue that "It is now widely recognized that old-fashioned paper ballots are a more affordable, reliable, and secure way to conduct elections. Computerised voting is increasingly seen as a fad that has worn out its welcome." (5) However, the proponents have a stronger argument than the opponents because they claim "Dominion has invested in the development of proprietary technology that truly sets its products apart from the competition. Focusing on two key aspects of the electoral process - risk limiting auditing and voter intent." (2) This proves that electronic voting machines offer reliable audit and accurately capture the voters' intent to ensure ballots are correct. They are also more efficient than the old fashion paper ballot system.

　　In summary, the proponents' argument that electronic voting machines are more reliable is better supported than the opponent's argument. The proponents prove that electronic voting machines are secure and efficient. They provide a convenient way for people to vote. They also ensure that disabled voters are able to verify the correctness of their vote before casting their ballot. Since the punch card system presented so many issues in the past, the electronic voting system proves to be a far better system for voters to cast voting ballots.

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