IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. Boxer (for herself and Mr. Dodd) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to reimburse jurisdictions for amounts paid or incurred in preparing, producing, and using contingency paper ballots in the November 7, 2006, Federal general election.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Confidence in Voting Act of 2006”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that a bipartisan report by former Attorney General Richard Thornburgh and former Governor
Richard Celeste concluded that “it will be essential this
year that jurisdictions have backup and contingency plans
that anticipate a wide range of possible failures in their
electronic voting systems”, and that contingency paper
ballots provide a sufficient backup plan for the failure of
such systems.

SEC. 3. REIMBURSEMENTS FOR CONTINGENCY PAPER BAL-
LOTS.

(a) Reimbursement.—Part 1 of subtitle D of title
II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.
15401 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 257
the following new section:

“SEC. 257A. PAYMENTS FOR CONTINGENCY PAPER BAL-
LOTS FOR THE 2006 GENERAL ELECTION.

“(a) In General.—The Commission shall pay to
each jurisdiction that conducts a general election on No-
vember 7, 2006, and uses a voting system other than a
paper ballot voting system in such election an amount
equal to the documented costs paid or incurred by such
jurisdiction for the preparation, production, and use of
contingency paper ballots for such election, but not to ex-
ceed 75 cents for each contingency paper ballot printed
by such jurisdiction for such election.

“(b) Requirements.—No payment shall be made
under subsection (a) unless the jurisdiction—
“(1) permits an individual, upon request, to cast a vote by means of a contingency paper ballot without regard to the means of voting otherwise specified in the jurisdiction where such individual votes; and

“(2) posts, in a conspicuous manner at the polling place, a notice stating that contingency paper ballots are available at the polling place and that a voter may request to use such a ballot at the voter’s discretion.

“(c) AMOUNTS.—Such sums shall be appropriated to the Commission as necessary for payments under subsection (a).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of the Help America Vote Act for 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 257 the following new item:

“Sec. 257A. Payments for contingency paper ballots for the 2006 general election.”.