

LES AUCOIN  
1ST DISTRICT, OREGON



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

June 11, 1981

Dear Colleague:

In 1960, for the first time in American history, television networks were on the air reporting presidential election returns from the East at a time when the polls were still open in the West.

This new influence on voting posed new problems, which were addressed in bills introduced in the 87th, 88th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th and 96th Congresses. None passed. The problem remains.

Why have none passed? Because too few Members have experienced the feeling of hollowness that comes from the absolute knowledge that your vote wouldn't matter? Millions of West Coast voters have shared that experience. Because too few Members have seen mayors, commissioners, sheriffs and state legislators doomed by early projections from 3,000 miles away? We in the West are on intimate terms with that feeling.

It need not happen again. H.R. 3595 is a simple, practical solution. It respects and preserves all First Amendment rights. It respects the rights and interests of all states. It mandates only that all polls close by 11 p.m. EST, and that no presidential results be released for publication until then.

I am joined in commending this bill to your attention by:

Mr. Weaver	Mr. Don Edwards	Mrs. Fenwick	Mr. Goodlin
Mr. Wyden	Mr. Coelho	Mr. Downey	Mr. Mineta
Mr. Akaka	Mr. Beilenson	Mr. Vento	
	Mr. Burgener	Mr. Seiberling	

We seek your support, before 1984 is upon us. By then it's too late, again. If you would like to co-sponsor, please call Bob Crane or Trish Bauman at 5-0855.

With best regards,

Sincerely

LES AUCOIN  
Member of Congress

LA/pjb