

The Decision On Voting Machines For New York State Is Imminent!

As a result of the Department of Justice lawsuit regarding New York State's lever machine replacement, New York State's county level election commissioners have until February 8, 2008 to choose whether to use either a paper ballot based ballot marker and scanner system, or a direct recording electronic (DRE) voting system for each county.

After reaching a compromise with the federal court to provide ballot marking devices for disabled voters in each polling places in 2008, the New York State Board of Elections has recklessly redefined ballot marking devices to include DRE voting machines. Let's be clear - the untested DRE devices which commissioners are now empowered to purchase are not Ballot Marking Devices, they are DRE touch screen voting machines. Because this choice will commit over half of the funding available for new voting machines, **if a county selects a DRE in February your county will vote on touch screen voting machines.**

Concerned New Yorkers can help by notifying the county commissioners of the importance of choosing a paper ballot based system, and putting the media spotlight on the issue. It is urgent that you contact your local election commissioners in writing before the end of the month, and include newspapers and county legislators in that correspondence.

Contact information for all of New York State's county level election commissioners can be found at the New York State Board of Elections web site:

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[Click to access County Board of Elections contact information:](#)

http://www.elections.state.ny.us/portal/page?_pageid=35,1,35_8677:35_8685&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

Duplicate, sign and send the following letter to county level election commissioners, and your local media and county legislators:

[Click to access Sample Letter:](#)

<http://www.nyvv.org/newdoc/ActNowJan08/LetterToCounty.rtf>

Please act now! The decision whether you will vote on electronic touch screen voting machines or voter marked paper ballots will be made in the next few weeks !

See our action page on NYVV's website:

<http://www.nyvv.org/ActJan08.shtml>