

TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN

238 Main St. P.O. Box 155 Cold Spring, NY 10516

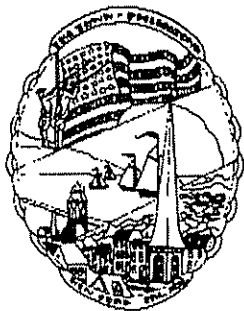
WILLIAM MAZZUCA, SUPERVISOR

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TINA M. MERANDO
TOWN CLERK AND TAX COLLECTOR

EDWARD W. DOYLE
TOWN ATTORNEY

DAVID BROWER, COUNCILMAN
BETTY BUDNEY, COUNCILWOMAN
RICHARD SHEA, COUNCILMAN
AL HOSMER, COUNCILMAN



DATE: April 11, 2005

TO: Margaret

FAX NO: 845-424-4706

SENT BY: Tanya Chirico

NUMBER OF SHEETS FAXED INCLUDING COVER SHEET 2

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DRAFT

RESOLUTION ADVOCATING CERTIFICATION OF HAVA-COMPLIANT

VOTING MACHINES AND RELATED ELECTION LAW IMPROVEMENTS

MOVED by ^{Councilwoman} ~~Budney~~ seconded by Councilman Shea

WHEREAS, free and fair elections provide the backbone of our democracy, and public confidence in the election system is crucial, and

WHEREAS, in October 2002, in response to the election debacle in Florida, Congress passed the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) to help States improve the voting process and make voting accessible to people with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, New York State is in the process of adopting the provisions of HAVA, and

WHEREAS, as it considers voting issues related to HAVA, the State Legislature should use the opportunity to preserve and protect our democracy, and

WHEREAS, existing lever machines, properly maintained, and paper ballots counted by hand or on precinct-counted optical scanners are reliable, user-friendly and cost-effective voting systems, which can be supplemented with adaptive ballot marking devices that render these systems usable by people with disabilities, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Philipstown Town Board urges the New York State Assembly, Senate, and Governor certify precinct-counted optical scanning machines with full-face paper ballots as the HAVA-compliant machine of choice for New York State,

RESOLVED, further, That the Philipstown Town Board urges the New York State Assembly, Senate, and Governor to incorporate the following in any legislation enacted by the State:

- Give County Boards of Elections the choice of voting systems, including:
 - o lever machines & accessible ballot-marking machines for voters with disabilities/non-English languages,
 - o paper ballots & accessible ballot-marking machines and precinct-based optical scanners and

- o e-voting systems with voter-verified paper ballots and 100% professional-quality audits with 100% accuracy required

- ballots after they are cast and of all vote-counting
- Establish legal standards for accuracy of vote tallies
- ~~Require public posting of all reports of election voting machine failures~~

- Require full disclosure to the public of initial and continuing costs of voting systems adopted, including vendor contracts for all services after purchase, training and salaries for elections staff, and estimated cost of audits, climate-controlled storage, etc.
- Include computer experts as well as financial auditors, CPAs, or computer auditors on the citizen's voting machine selection advisory committee
- Require election-district-level tabulation and public posting of each election-district's results at each polling place when the polls close

RESOLVED, further, That our election process be further improved by:
Having the five percent cost not covered by Federal HAVA funds be paid by New York State rather than its individual counties so as not to create a hardship on counties with fewer local resources and because the source of funds at the state level is more broad based.

RESOLVED, further, That this Town Board requests that New York State's HAVA implementation plan be amended in accordance with the above-bulleted list in a timely manner so that New York State will have sufficient time to receive Federal monies and purchase appropriate equipment.

RESOLVED, further, That a copy of this resolution be sent to President George W. Bush, Senators Schumer and Clinton, Congresswoman Sue Kelly, Governor George Pataki, State Senators Bruno, Flanagan and Leibell, State Assemblymembers Silver, Wright and Galef, and Deputy Executive Director, New York State Board of Elections, Peter Kosinski.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

cc:

Town Clerk
Senator C. Schumer
Senator H. Clinton
President G. Bush
Congresswoman Sue Kelly
Governor George Pataki
New York State Board of Elections - Peter Kosinski
Senator J. Bruno
Senator John J. Flanagan
Senator V. Leibell
Assemblyman Sheldon Silver
Assemblyman Keith Wright
Assemblywoman Sandy Galef
New York State Association of Towns

STATE OF NEW YORK)) ss: TOWN OF PHILIPSTOWN)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution adopted by the TOWN BOARD OF PHILIPSTOWN on the ____ day of March, 2005. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Town of Philipstown New York, this ____ day of March, 2005.

, Clerk

Philipstown Town Board