

JPAC *for OLDER ADULTS*

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Sponsored by Jewish Association for Services for the Aged (JASA)

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The Joint Public Affairs Committee for Older Adults (JPAC), supports an optical scan voting system for New York State to replace lever voting machines.

Optical scan systems are accessible to all voters; they are reliable, auditable, recountable and cost effective. They provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities and language barriers with access to vote.

Precinct-based optical scan systems are already used in over 40% of the voting precincts in the United States. They are proven and tested voting systems and will be used by many states to comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).

JPAC is deeply concerned about the possibility of the State purchasing touch screen electronic voting machines. We do not believe that the electronic machines will provide a secure, accurate and cost effective system for New York State residents.

If New York State does not act quickly to rectify the situation with HAVA compliance, we will lose out on the necessary funds to upgrade our voting system and will still be required to make the necessary changes to the machines. By moving quickly to certify the Optical Scan Voting System, New York State can be in full compliance with HAVA.

JPAC calls on the State and local Boards of Elections to adopt the statewide use of optical scanners and marking devices as New York's plan for rapid HAVA compliance.

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