

# STATE WIDE

**New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.**

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## **Statewide Senior Action Council – NYC Chapter June 8, 2009**

### **Resolution to Continue Using Our Current Lever Voting Machines**

As senior citizens we know that nationwide and worldwide economic turmoil and crisis such as we are now experiencing will not turn around in a short time. For this reason, our state and city must make wise budgetary choices now to maintain stability.

Our most important need is to retain jobs and essential services, and it would be unwise to make unnecessary expenditures.

This is one reason we believe that our state and city should continue to use our current lever voting machines, and avoid spending our resources now on new voting machines that we do not need. Our lever voting machines have proven themselves to be affordable, reliable, and easy to manage by our Boards of Elections, voters, and poll workers.

Our state and city wish to replace our lever voting machines with paper ballots and computerized vote counting machines called optical scanners.

Historically, paper ballots have been inviting to tampering and can only be secured by continuous observation by citizens, candidates, and all parties, which may not be practical or feasible.

Computers are not understandable, and we note that in cases of malfunction during elections nationwide, it is common for even the vendors of optical scanners to say they do not understand what went wrong. Moreover, to confirm that the scanners worked properly, it is necessary to conduct extensive hand-counts of the votes they processed, which may not be practical or feasible.

This is a second set of reasons why we believe that our state and city should continue to use our current lever voting machines.

Therefore, we urge our state and city to change course, scrap our plans to replace our current lever machines, and take whatever action is needed immediately to do so.

We also urge the New York City Council to pass a resolution to support such action.