

## A8597/S6733 A Bill to Ban Hybrid Voting Machines

Dear Elected:

The recent disastrous Iowa caucus makes it abundantly clear that tech is not the golden panacea to better elections that its supporters claim it to be. A recent NY Times article was entitled [“The Only Safe Election Is a Low-Tech Election: The Iowa caucus debacle proved that a 21st-century election requires 19th-century technology”](#). We could not agree more. The best use of technology in elections is the least use of technology in elections.

We are particularly alarmed over the use of hybrid voting machines, which computer experts have flagged as potential security risks. **What are hybrid voting machines and why are they a problem?**

- They combine elements of a Ballot Marking Device (BMD) voting machine and a scanner/tabulator voting machine
- In a typical BMD voting machine, the BMD printer is used to create a marked ballot for people unable to mark a ballot with a pen, or who are vision impaired, before being sent through a scanner/tabulator.
- In a typical scanner/tabulator voting machine, the scanner/tabulator reads voter hand marked ballots and then counts those votes.
- Nationally recognized computer experts agree that **hybrid machines, if hacked, can print fraudulent votes because all ballots, whether cast using the BMD function or the scanner/tabulator function, physically pass under the print head after voters have cast them.** According to experts, it would require forensic analysis to distinguish fraudulent votes from legitimate votes made by a voter. **The result: in the event of a hack, the ‘back up’ paper ballots needed for recounts and audits would be useless.**

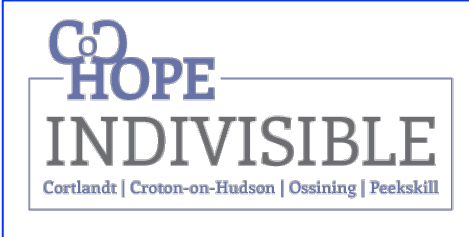
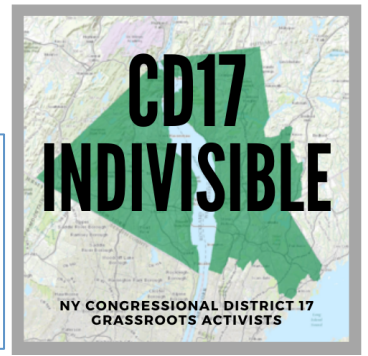
We the undersigned **ask you to co-sponsor A8597/S6733**. This bill would ensure that voting machines and systems are constructed in a way that makes it impossible for the ballot to pass under the printhead after it has been reviewed by the voter- effectively banning these dangerous hybrid machines.

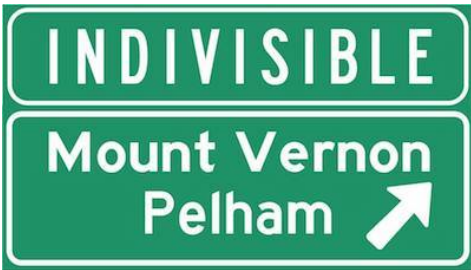
For too long, we have as a nation been careless and inattentive to the security of our elections. We can no longer allow that to happen. Please co-sponsor this important bill and help us to make New York’s elections as safe as possible.

Sincerely,

**UU Church Social Justice-Saratoga  
Concerned Families of Westchester  
Citizens for Voter Integrity New York**







**WE PERSIST**

