

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION



FOR WOMEN



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June 6, 2009

Resolution in support of keeping our lever voting machines

The New York State and New York City budgets are imposing cutbacks on services that are essential for our people, especially women and children. This is a time for careful decision-making and we cannot waste money on nonessential projects.

We do not believe that replacement of our lever voting machines is essential. Our lever voting machines are working well, and can continue to do so with inexpensive maintenance for the next century.

We need to reserve our scarce economic resources to pay for firehouses, senior centers, children's after-school programs, affordable housing, libraries, parks, and other needs that directly affect people's everyday lives.

Women fought for many years to get the vote. We don't want to turn our votes over to private companies who make electronic vote-counting optical scanners. The vendors of these scanners are loyal to profit-making rather than to our democracy. We believe that our Boards of Elections should continue to use equipment that they fully understand and can prepare for elections and inspect without difficulty.

We urge Governor Paterson, the New York State Legislature, Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, and our State Board of Elections to respond quickly to the current economic crisis by taking all actions necessary to enable our state to keep our lever voting machines.

We urge the New York City Council to quickly pass a resolution to support all state action that may be necessary to keep our lever voting machines.

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