

RESOLUTION NO. 202—09 INTRODUCED BY GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF KEEPING THE LEVER VOTING MACHINES

WHEREAS, Sullivan County has successfully used highly accurate lever voting machines for many decades with very few problems and wants to continue using them, and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County believes that continued use of lever voting machines is in the best interest of the public, that unlike optical scan computers, our time-proved lever machines can be relied upon to accurately count votes as cast and cost far less, and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County's lever machines now comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) because New York has installed ballot marking devices for voting by disabled persons, and

WHEREAS, New York State's enactment of the Election Reform and Modernization Act of 2005 (ERMA) predates installation of the ballot marking devices for disabled-person voting and New York now complies with HAVA, and

WHEREAS, the State's statutorily required elimination of lever machines through ERMA is no longer necessary, is inappropriate, and exorbitantly costly to Sullivan County's tax payers, and

WHEREAS, the lever machines should be permitted for use by Senior Citizens that are unfamiliar with digital equipment, and

WHEREAS, the availability and use of lever machines is in reality an accessibility issue for those citizens unfamiliar with digital equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby requests the New York State Legislature and the New York State Board of Elections to enact laws, rules, and regulations that specifically authorize continued use of lever voting machines, particularly for those citizens unfamiliar with digital equipment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk to the Legislature forward a copy of this resolution to Governor David Paterson; New York State Senate Majority Leader, Malcolm Smith; Sheldon Silver, Speaker of the New York State Assembly; Senator John J. Bonacic; Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther; Co-Executive Directors of the New York State Board of Elections Todd Valentine and Stanley Zalen; New York State Board of Elections Commissioners James Walsh, Douglas Kellner, Evelyn Aquila, and Gregory Peterson; and Sullivan County Elections Commissioners Faith Kaplan and Rodney Gaebel.

Moved by Mr. Sorensen, seconded by Mrs. Binder, put to a vote and unanimously carried and declared duly adopted on motion May 21, 2009.

STATE OF NEW YORK)

§:

COUNTY OF SULLIVAN)

I, ANNMARIE MARTIN, Clerk to the Legislature of the County of Sullivan, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a resolution with the original thereof now on file in my office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original.
WITNESS my hand and seal of said Legislature this 21st day of May 2009.


CLERK TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY LEGISLATURE