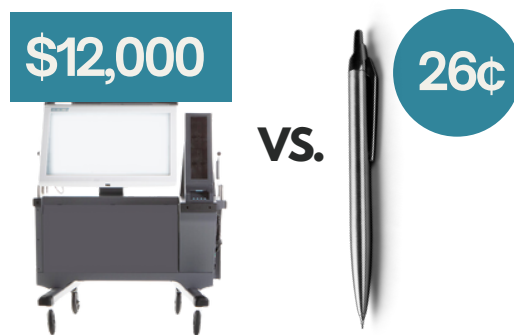# TOUCHSCREEN VOTING IS BAD FOR NY

Experts say it's more expensive, less secure & creates lines to vote

## DON'T WASTE OUR TIME & MONEY

New ATM-style touchscreen voting machines have been approved for use in New York state. They require all voters at a location to vote on a touchscreen, replacing pen and paper ballots. Research shows these systems are slower than our current voting machines: one study* estimates it takes 2-9 times as many touchscreen machines to process the same number of voters. Touchscreens are also almost twice as expensive as competing systems. This can lead counties to purchase fewer voting machines and can contribute to excessively long lines. Voters on touchscreen systems waited 7-10 hours to vote in 2020. Unfortunately, three New York counties have already purchased this type of voting machine, and more are considering.

## Touchscreen voting is exponentially more expensive than pen & paper. Why?

$12,000   VS.   26¢

- Touchscreens themselves are more expensive $12,000 vs. $7,000 for scanners
- Additionally, New York state requires counties to purchase almost 10 times the number of touchscreen machines to serve the same number of voters. From NY State Board of Elections:
  - "There shall be at least one scanning device for every 4,000 registered voters ...assigned to a polling place." (p.1))
  - "For Election Day, an ExpressVote XL [touchscreen] machine shall not be assigned to serve more than 450 registered voters" (p.20)

## EXPERTS THAT REQUESTED THE EXPRESSVOTE XL - A TOUCHSCREEN VOTING MACHINE - NOT BE APPROVED IN NY

*Affiliation listed for identification only

Andrew W. Appel, Prof. of Computer Science, Princeton University
David Bader, Prof. New Jersey Institute of Technology
Duncan Buell, Chair Emeritus, NCR Chair in Computer Science & Engineering, University of South Carolina
Chris Bystroff, Prof. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Richard DeMillo, Prof. School of Cybersecurity & Privacy, GA Tech
David L. Dill, Prof. Emeritus, School of Engineering, Stanford Univ
Candice Hoke, Founding Director, Center for Cybersecurity & Privacy Protection, Cleveland State University
David Jefferson, Computer Scientist, Lawrence Livermore Natl Lab

Douglas W. Jones, Emeritus Associate Professor Comp Science, University of Iowa
Bennie Smith, Tennessee State Election Commissioner & Software Developer
Stephanie Frank Singer, Ph.D, Senior Fellow, Hatfield School of Government
Former Chair, Philadelphia Co. Board of Elections
Philip B. Stark, Prof. of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley

## Let's make decisions based on facts

**Research from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission shows that voters wait longer on touchscreen machines.**

> "**There is evidence that voters who use electronic voting machines ... take longer to vote** than users of paper system."

**Voters that wait longer have less confidence their votes will be counted and are less likely to vote in the future.**

> "**Waiting a long time to vote reduces the confidence voters have** that their votes are counted."
> - The U.S. EAC, 2022

> **There is no evidence that touchscreen voting can handle longer ballots** than scanners that process pen & paper ballots. In 2022 San Francisco had more than 50 candidates & issues on the ballot. They used pen & paper ballots (with assistive devices) and scanners to count them successfully.

**Protect voters!
Protect taxpayers!
Increase confidence!
Use hand-marked paper ballots w/ accessible devices**

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### THE MORNING CALL

## No confidence: Northampton County election board 'extremely disappointed' in machines it selected

"Following the election [in 2019], vendor ES&S determined that roughly 40% of the machines delivered had missed going through a touch screen calibration step before shipping from their manufacturer ...

In 2023, a different mistake ... caused the text heading of two statewide Yes/No questions to be switched on the printed card ... During the computation ... of returns, the return board was apparently instructed to switch the vote totals from poll tapes for the two affected questions, in order to reconcile with the printed result totals. Then the obvious mismatch surfaced again during the statutorily required 2% statistical sample audit, with nothing to document this "adjustment."

Letter signed by both Democrat & Republican Northampton County Chairs

**Counties that purchased the ExpressVote XL, a touchscreen voting machine, are experiencing buyer's remorse**

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**\*** "The ExpressVote XL ...can accommodate 10-12 voters with disabilities per hour or 20-60 voters per hour when used as the primary voting system ...[in comparison] DS200 [NY's current system] can serve 120-180 voters per hour." (PA Dept of State p.34)

**For more info contact Executive Director Lulu Friesdat
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We Can Improve Our Elections