

Introductory Local Law Number 1 Of 2008

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Specifying Criteria For Election Voting Systems For Use In Ulster County

BE IT ENACTED, by the County Legislature of the County of Ulster as follows:

WHEREAS, Honest, observable, and easily-verified public elections constitute the foundation of representative democracy, and

WHEREAS, Public confidence in the outcome of elections depends on voting technology that is reliable, secure, and easy to use, and

WHEREAS, historically, many local elections are so close that an accurate canvass and recount is necessary, and

WHEREAS, the accuracy and public confidence of any recount will be enhanced by the use of voting systems where the medium is marked directly by voters (or in the case of voters with disabilities marked by a ballot marking device), because paper ballots traditionally facilitate the most accurate, easily observable recount possible, and

WHEREAS, State law gives the initial choice of voting technologies to the Ulster County Commissioners of Elections, and desiring not to take away but to only limit the choice of the commissioners.

ENACTED:

Any voting technology to be used in Ulster County for local, state, and federal elections must provide a paper record that is the actual paper (a) manually marked by the voter and (b) in the case of voters with disabilities, marked by a marking device,

and the Commissioners of the Ulster County Board of Elections shall take all necessary steps to implement this requirement in a timely manner.

Nothing in this law shall prohibit the use of the existing mechanical voting machines as long as state law permits such use.

This law shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.