VOTING INTEGRITY AND VERIFICATION ACT OF NEW YORK (VIVA NY)

Ensuring Voters Control Their Own Ballots

A5934A (Cunningham)/S6169A (Cleare)

New York has instituted many common sense reforms to protect voters over the years. New York requires the use of individual, voter-verifiable paper ballots that allow voters to cast their votes privately and independently. The Voting Integrity and Verification Act of New York (VIVA NY) strengthens existing law in order to give voters more confidence in our elections.

VIVA NY REQUIRES THE USE OF PAPER BALLOTS FOR ALL VOTERS

This bill requires that every voter will have the option to mark a paper ballot by hand or with a ballot marking device that does not also count votes. This keeps the ballot under the voter's own control until it is cast. Paper ballots marked by the voter are the gold standard when it comes to election security.

INCREASES VOTERS' CONFIDENCE THAT THEIR BALLOTS ARE ACCURATELY COUNTED

Each individual voter – and no one or nothing else - should have control of their own ballot throughout the process of voting. By ensuring that each voter controls their ballot until it is cast and counted, we increase confidence in our elections and help counter mis- and disinformation attacking the conduct and outcome of our elections.

FACILITATES EASY POST-ELECTION AUDITING

Unfortunately, we live in a time when some voters harbor suspicion about the accuracy of election results. Paper ballots are the literal paper trail whenever there is a need to conduct a post-election audit or a hand recount of an election.