



**OTTER TAIL COUNTY**  
**AUDITOR - TREASURER'S OFFICE**  
FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION  
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March 8, 2023

Re: Amendment to House File No. 1140

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the County Auditor-Treasurer in Otter Tail County, and in that capacity serve as the administrator of the county's Federal, State, County and local elections. I am writing in support of the amendment to House File No. 1140. This amendment gives each county the choice to select the voting equipment that is best suited to them.

Technology keeps advancing and improving. This amendment provides Minnesota jurisdictions with an opportunity to replace Assistive Voting Technology in very precinct with "next generation" technology, fully compatible with existing election equipment systems (software and hardware). It has my support for the following reasons:

- Results in a system that is easier to use – for the voter, for the poll worker, and for election staff.
- Compact, lightweight design provides easy transport and setup for poll workers.
- Provides voters complete and total independence – since it is fully ADA compliant, it can serve all our voters.
- Reduces the expense of pre-printed ballots – even though the county would still purchase pre-printed ballots, this technology would allow voters to choose to vote on a touch screen and have their ballot printed for them, which will eliminate the possibility of running out of any ballot style.
- Produces a fully verifiable paper ballot which can be counted using existing optical scan ballot counters.
- Technology meets updated voting system standards and is offered by multiple vendors.
- Eliminates unclear voter intentions – no longer will ballots have over-votes or cause questions regarding marginally-marked ballots; the resulting printed ballot will be 100% clear.

I encourage you to support the amendment to House File 1140, to allow for the certification of the Express Vote. The passage of this amendment will provide an opportunity to replace current assistive voting equipment with equipment using new technology, which should make our voting process more efficient and effective for voters and administrators alike. This amendment merely provides an option allowing counties to select the technology that best meets their needs.

Sincerely,

*Wayne Stein*

Wayne Stein  
County Auditor-Treasurer  
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