

COUNTY EMPOWERMENT OVERVIEW

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am ___(name)___, one of thousands of Georgia voters, including many here in our county, who no longer trust voting on the Dominion voting system because it is inaccurate, unsecure, illegal, unverifiable to the voter and an [unnecessary financial burden](#) on the counties.:

1. Our voting system is unverifiable to voters because it accumulates their votes from a QR code that they cannot read.
2. A U.S. District Court found our voting system's unverifiability [violates two Georgia laws](#). [pg 81-82]
3. The system [never produced accurate results](#) for Coffee Co. in 2020 and it [declared the wrong winners](#) in the 2022 DeKalb District 2 Commission race.
4. The recently unsealed [Halderman Security Analysis](#) found the system was not designed, engineered or tested properly for election security and it cannot be retrofitted for security.

The Secretary of State's [rebuttal MITRE report](#) has been [ridiculed by 29 experts](#) as "dangerous" and "ridiculous". Nevertheless, he has continued conducting secretly counted elections with sealed ballots even for his own unverifiable primary.

[O.C.G.A. 21-2-334](#) and [21-2-366](#) are overriding statutes that give the county authority over the conduct of its elections. The Governor, Secretary and State Election Board have all [admitted in court](#) that the counties have that authority.

So, the choice is yours. You can conduct the next election on secure hand marked paper ballots, hand counted with full audits and publicly available ballots.

Or, you can continue to conduct the election on an illegal, unverifiable, inaccurate, unsecure voting system that is an extreme financial burden to county taxpayers.

Your responsibility is to protect the votes of county residents, not to support the agenda of a voting system vendor and the Secretary of State who have disenfranchised us with such a corrupt system.

(Two minutes)

COUNTY LEGAL AUTHORITY

I am ___(name)___ and am here today to correct false information our county may have received from the Secretary of State about the legal authority the county has to conduct its own elections.

The Secretary has intimidated counties by claiming he has authority to dictate how they conduct elections. Meanwhile, the Governor and State Election Board and the Secretary [admitted in court](#) they have no such legal election authority over counties. (Pearson v. Kemp, 11/29/20)

The Secretary cites [O.C.G.A. 21-2-300](#) for his election equipment authority but that same statute explains his chosen system violates state law. The U.S. District Court confirmed in an [October 2020 order](#) his system is illegal since it does not produce a ballot marked with the elector's choices in a human readable format.

That is an example of why the U.S. District Court found the SOS office "flatly not credible" in an [August 2019 order](#) [pg70]. Counties are responsible to produce their election results. The SOS office only accumulates county results for the state.

At most, 21-2-300 requires counties to use the same vendor and equipment model types. However, all Georgia counties determine the number of Ballot Marking Devices and scanners they choose to employ with their election servers.

O.C.G.A. [21-2-334](#) and [366](#) are overriding statutes confirming legal authority for Georgia counties. 334 authorizes Election Boards to use hand-marked, hand counted paper ballots if they deem the system impracticable. 366 authorizes the Commissions to buy more optical scan equipment as needed to count the ballots.

The current QR coded voting system is unverifiable to the voter, was declared illegal by the U.S. District Court, is [deemed unsecure](#) by [30 technology experts](#) and the system even [crowned the wrong winners](#) in a 2022 primary.

It is obvious the system is not practicable. The board must immediately act to protect voters with a legal, verifiable, accurate and secure voting system for 2024.

(Two minutes – must read fast)

GEORGIA VOTING SYSTEM SECURITY

I am (name), a county voter here today to correct false information our county received from the Secretary of State about [Dr. Halderman's Security Analysis](#) of the Dominion Voting System's ICX Ballot Marking Devices (BMD)s.

The Secretary claimed the system is safe to use based on the [MITRE report](#) that is unsigned, was funded by Dominion and was produced without any access to a voting system. [29 experts wrote](#) to MITRE's CEO that the report is "dangerous" and "ridiculous".

You have also heard the false claim that Logic and Accuracy testing makes the system safe. In reality, "only a single test ballot per ICX is required to be printed."

Dr. Halderman confirms what VoterGA stated for years: Logic and Accuracy can be set so it "...skips cheating on the first n ballots..." or set "to only cheat on the day of the election", and "No grand conspiracies would be necessary to commit large-scale fraud."

Halderman also confirms that the scanners cannot detect photocopied ballots like those seen by senior Fulton Co. poll managers during a 2020 hand count audit.

Halderman contends the Dominion ICX BMD "...was developed without sufficient attention to security during design, software engineering and testing." and "... it would be extremely difficult to retrofit security into a system..."

This bottom line is the BMDs and scanners cannot be made secure with local physical access controls and must not be used in future elections. We need hand marked paper ballots, hand counted in public at the polling locations for 2024.

Your responsibility is to protect county voters, not the voting system vendor and the Secretary of State who have disenfranchised us with lies.

(Two minutes)

HALDERMAN SECURITY ANALYSIS

I am ___(name)___ , a county voter here to explain that the recently released [Halderman Security Analysis](#) documented devastating security flaws in our Dominion ICX Ballot Marking Devices (BMD)s and scanners. I want to read some quotes from Dr. Halderman’s analysis that is supported by [29 additional experts](#). He says:

1. There are critical vulnerabilities in the Ballot Marking Devices “that can be exploited to subvert all of its security mechanisms,…”
2. “...malware can alter voters’ votes while subverting all of the procedural protections practiced by the State...”
3. “Attackers can alter the QR codes on printed ballots to modify voters’ selections or “forge and manipulate the smart cards”
4. Attackers can “alter ballots with votes they disfavor by replacing the QR codes” on the digital ballot images
5. “...attackers can install malicious software on Georgia’s BMDs, either with temporary physical access or remotely...”
6. “ICX malware can still change individual votes and most election outcomes without detection...”
7. Attackers can “...spread malware to all BMDs across a county or the entire state.”

Counties have no means to detect malware in their election definition files that can be easily spread from the state election preparation server. In 2017, the state election server was [found to be exposed to the internet](#) for anyone in the world to hack. After the exposure was found, the Secretary of State office wiped the servers without checking for malware as soon as the *Curling v. Raffensperger* lawsuit was filed.

Dr Halderman concluded no local physical access controls can make the BMDs and scanners secure. We should not use them in future elections. We need hand marked paper ballots, hand counted in public at the polling locations for 2024.

(Two minutes)

HAND COUNT DEMONSTRATIONS

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am ___ (Name)___ and am here to join thousands of Georgians, including many in our county, calling for the county to immediately install a verifiable, secure, accurate, cost effective and legal voting system.

Experts agree that hand-marked paper ballots, hand counted in public at the precincts and voting centers is the only safe, secure and viable alternative.

I want to make you aware that there are at least two hand-counting methods that are available for demonstration. We can arrange for them to come here to hold a mock election, with hand counted results for the Board to experience.

One method has shown that one four-person team can count 100 ballots per hour in an election of 12-15 races. A precinct of 1,000 ballots can produce hand counted results in three hours with only three teams counting. To count faster just add another team.

Compare that to Maricopa County, Arizona in 2022 where it took three weeks to produce results due to mismanagement and problems with the machines and the results are still in question even to this day.

Public hand counting can be extremely simple, safe, secure and efficient. In addition, it will result in a major net savings to the county from the costs necessary to license, maintain, certify, test, store and operate the current electronic voting system.

The current QR coded voting system is unverifiable to the voter, was [declared illegal](#) by the U.S. District Court, is [deemed unsecure](#) by [30 technology experts](#), [and it produced inaccurate results all three times it counted](#) in the 2020 Coffee Co. election and even [declared the wrong winners](#) in a 2022 DeKalb Co. primary.

We must immediately move to secure the 2024 election and regain trust from Georgia voters. Please act now.

(Two minutes)

I'm Tamara Favorito with VoterGA.

I'd like to thank Chairman Burns for introducing this senate bill which we support today primarily because it authorizes for all electors the option to bypass the electronic ballot marking devices and cast hand marked ballots. This benefits all in person electors by allowing them to cast a legal in person ballot instead of having to learn how to request an absentee ballot.

We recommend changes to allow the elector to place the hand marked ballot into the scanner prior to leaving the polling location. That provides better chain of custody for the elector and makes the process consistent with that of other in-person voters.

Any security concerns with pre-printed ballots can be resolved by printing them on serialized, security grade paper as Senator Harbin's SB226 proposes. Any concerns about managing pre-printed forms can be resolved with Ballot on Demand printing at the polling locations.

The procedure I'm recommending is consistent with the emergency ballot procedures in SEB Rule 183-1-12-.11(2)(c) & (d) when the BMDs are not available but the scanners are available during voting hours. It requires changes to Section 1 (c) lines 28-31 and subsection (d)(1) and (2) lines 32-39.

Serialized security grade paper requires changes to subsection (a) of O.C.G.A. 21-2-383 referenced in this bill.

In closing, while I support this bill, it does not address the concerns around the secret counting of electors' vote by the scanner/tabulators without proper verification.

I have given each member of the committee a copy of my comments and my line-by-line changes to the bill.

Thank you.

Mr Chairman,

Dr. Alex Halderman's expert security analysis contends the Dominion touchscreen system "...was developed without sufficient attention to security during design, software engineering and testing." and "... it would be extremely difficult to retrofit security into a system...". Simply stated, it's broken and no patch is going to fix the problems he uncovered.

When the analysis was released after two years, the Secretary of State claimed an unsigned MITRE report that was funded by Dominion and produced without access to the voting system says we have no need to worry.

When we complained that a QR coded voting system is unverifiable to the voter, the Secretary of State purchased it anyway and then later filed an amicus brief to prevent the people of Georgia from seeing actual ballots it tabulated.

When the U.S. District Court found that the voting system violated two Georgia statues the Secretary of State simply ignored the court.

The voting system could never produce the correct results in the 2020 Coffee County election even after three recounts, and the county elections director helped obtain a forensic exam to protect county voters. The Secretary never investigated the voting system problems and attacked the Elections Director.

When a hand count proved the voting system declared the wrong winners in a May 24, 2022, Dekalb District 2 Commission primary, the Secretary threatened county board members not to audit any more races and then declared himself the winner of his race in the same primary.

For these reasons we won't trust this voting system, we don't trust the vendor who sold it to us, and we will never trust the Secretary of State who purchased it and covered up the problems.

The people of Georgia deserve honest, transparent elections. We need hand marked paper ballots with publicly recorded hand counts at the precincts and tabulating centers. Nothing else will secure the 2024 election.