TO**:** Anoka County Board of Commissioners and Staff

FROM: Anoka County Election Integrity Team (ACEIT)

DATE: August 22, 2023

SUBJECT**:** Federal Government Takeover of Our Local Elections\_Unless You Act!

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**Introduction:**

In May of 2023 election cybersecurity expert Mark Cook warned Chairman Look and Commissioner Reinert that the state and federal governments were trying to take over control of our elections. I have included a copy of the election ecosystem diagram Mr. Cook devised showing that to preserve election integrity, we must have local control.

As Mr. Cook predicted, on July 18, 2023, Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar cosponsored what is touted as “The Freedom to Vote Act”. This legislation is also cosponsored by 50 of her fellow senate democrats**.** Not one republican cosponsored this bill even though the spirit of election law is supposed to be bipartisan. The bill removes state and local control with regard to eligibility, registration, and voting.

**Analysis:**

The fact that the 51 senators supporting the bill are from only one party reveals that it is unbalanced in its content.

The fact that the legislation is 607 pages long gives insight as to how deep and wide the takeover is of your power.

The question is, why does the federal government now feel the need to interfere in the local control of our elections?

* Some tout it is so that everyone can have a better chance to vote, but the reality is that each state is fully capable of managing their own affairs in this matter – as they have for centuries! – without federal government controlling it.
* So if that isn’t it, **why is that control so coveted?**
	+ Note that many of the provisions of bill loosen or even eliminate the checks and balances that any secure and honest program and process should include.
	+ Note that money is offered to state entities that will get onboard with the bill.
	+ Note the lofty words/phrases such as “undue partisan interference or control” are going to be administered. This can usually be interpreted as they can go after people who question what they are doing, in any means they want.
	+ Note that the bill also eliminates mechanisms currently in place to help clean voter registration rolls.

Highlighting just a few of the elements of this bill leads one to the obvious conclusion that some in Congress are attempting to take control from the states.

* Could it be for purposes of ensuring their candidates are selected rather than ensuring that We The People are not the ones who decide?
* Could it be that “The Freedom to Vote Act” is really just a feel good name that dupes state and local leaders and people into believing they have a voice?
* Could it be that if you don’t take action to have locally controlled eligibility, registration, and voting - - AS WE THE PEOPLE are calling for - - that you are complicit with the duping?

**Conclusions/Recommendations:**

The reality is the best solution to keep elections secure is to keep the power at the local level where it is closest to the people. **Local control** increases transparency which reduces fraud. You DO still have the power to require local control by establishing a parallel handcount, which is more transparent and reduces fraud and constant system expenditures.

As foreseen by Mark Cook, and many others, “The Freedom to Vote Act” bill is proof that we do not have much more time to waste if we want local governments to keep control of our elections, **so we do not embed tyranny.**

We decree that we will not lose America. America and our Republic will be saved. Do you intend to be on the *faithful servant* and hero side of this struggle? If so, **establish hand-counts of all elections in Anoka County**, which is one of the items on the Recipe for Home Grown Elections card you were given in the last Board meeting.

**Attachment/Link:**

* Cybersecurity expert, Mark Cook’s diagram “Election Ecosystem: Control”
* The Freedom to Vote Act [legislation](https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/4/b/4b07afec-7ce7-4c99-a45f-262eb845ad9c/B82240DC47AA728624092B37301DAD95.118th-congress-freedom-to-vote-act.pdf) moving state and local power to the federal government