**Memorandum**

TO: Anoka County Board of Commissioners and Staff

FROM: Anoka County Election Integrity Team (ACEIT)

DATE: 7/11/2023

SUBJECT: ACEIT’s plan now

**Introduction**

This is ACEIT’s response to the new legislation.

**Analysis**

I wanted to give you an update on ACEIT’s response to the passage of the new legislation.

I think these 2 new laws are proof that ACEIT was right all along. We told you the machines were a problem for a year now and then the state passes a law mandating the use of machines? We asked you for the cast vote records and then the state passes a law saying you can’t give them to us?

The timing of these laws is rather obvious. These new laws won’t be popular with the folks and even Tucker Carlson came out last week and said “no country that cares about democracy should be using these machines”.

We can still get rid of the electronic poll pads. We think the poll pads are equally damaging because they advertise as a one stop shop for the entire election process from registration to reporting. Dumping the electronic poll pads should be easy because just 6 years ago we used paper poll pads.

We can still do parallel hand counts for any election and just hand count in 2023 local elections.

The state has been in power grabbing mode recently. I’m assuming the 7 of you ran for county commissioner because you wanted to keep the power at the local level and close to the people? The lesson from these 2 news laws is that if you want to keep the power with the people, then you need to act sooner.

And finally, ACEIT is also going to be focusing more on the political side of election reform. Tomorrow on July 12 at the Andover Community Center we are meeting with the heads of the Anoka County BPOU’s to ask for their help. There is a lot of energy at the BPOU’s right now and we want to concentrate that energy towards the most important issue of election reform.