**Speech**

My name is Derek Lind and I live in Ramsey

I found out last night that the State of Minnesota passed a law mandating the use of machines in Anoka County’s elections. We think it was buried deep in an omnibus bill and it didn’t get much attention.

I have a few questions regarding this:

#1, Why would the State of Minnesota need to mandate machines now?

#2, Do the citizens of Anoka County even trust these machines?

#3, Is Anoka County now mandated to pay for this expensive equipment?

#4 Is Minnesota the only state to mandate the machines?

#5 Will this law even stand up if it is challenged?

I have done my job as an advocate. For 14 months now I have brought you the facts.

We’ve had 20 different people give 45 speeches from this podium.

You had a 90 minute private zoom call with one of the top election cybersecurity experts in the country. Mark Cook showed you the problems with the machines.

You can’t say you weren’t warned.

The good people of Anoka County, all 370,000 of us, elected you to protect us. We put all of our trust in just the 7 of you. You had the authority to reform our elections but you chose not to act.

So now the state has acted for you instead. This might even bring a few of you some temporary relief, until one day too you also realize that our elections cannot be trusted. And rather than giving our elections back to the people, by omission, you are choosing to give away our elections to the state.