

## Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello County Executive

> Office of the Legislature Of **Monroe County** Committee Assignment

April 4, 2025

WAYS & MEANS

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To The Honorable Monroe County Legislature 407 County Office Building Rochester, New York 14614

Subject:

Amend the 2025 Capital Budget to Increase Funding for the Project Entitled "Replacement of Voting Machines" and Decrease Funding for the Project Entitled "Voting Equipment," Authorize Interfund Transfers

## Honorable Legislators:

This matter is being referred to Your Honorable Body at the request of Monroe County Elections Commissioners Jackie Ortiz and Peter D. Elder.

I recommend that Your Honorable Body amend the 2025 Capital Budget to increase funding by \$2,000,000 for the project entitled "Replacement of Voting Machines" from \$0 to \$2,000,000, and to decrease funding by \$2,000,000 for the project entitled "Voting Equipment," from \$2,000,000 to \$0, and authorize interfund transfers.

The \$2 million reallocation for voting machine replacement is necessary to address critical logistical challenges and comply with updated voter capacity requirements. Initially allocated for electronic pollbooks, these funds are now needed to purchase additional ES&S voting machines, ensuring a seamless transition between early voting and Election Day without transferring machines between locations.

The original allocation was based on a registered voter count of 480,000, but following the Presidential Election, that number has exceeded 500,000, requiring an increase in machines at select polling sites. Furthermore, machine allocation must be calculated at the poll site level, meaning additional voting machines are required at certain locations to meet demand.

Additionally, per NYS BOE Resolution 23-27, a single ExpressVote XL machine cannot serve more than 450 voters, with additional machines at the same site limited to 550 voters each, further necessitating this reallocation.

## The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Amend the 2025 Capital Budget to increase funding for the project entitled "Replacement of Voting Machines" by \$2,000,000, from \$0 to \$2,000,000, for a total project authorization of \$14,000,000.

- 2. Amend the 2025 Capital Budget to decrease funding for the project entitled "Voting Equipment" by \$2,000,000, from \$2,000,000 to \$0, for a total project authorization of \$0.
- 3. Authorize an interfund transfer in the amount of \$2,000,000 from capital fund 2124, Voting Equipment, to capital fund 1996, Replacement of Voting Equipment.

This is a Type II action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) ("routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

These amendments to the capital budget and interfund transfers will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures in the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Adam J. Bello

Sincerely

Monroe County Executive

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