

VOTE Using Maryland's Accessible Ballot-Marking Machine -and- Tell DRM About Your Experience!

Maryland's new voting system requires voters to cast their vote using a pre-printed paper ballot.

- Paper ballots that must be hand marked are not accessible to some people with vision and manual dexterity disabilities.

To ensure that every voter has the right to vote privately and independently, every polling place is required to have an accessible ballot-marking machine.

- The ballot-marking machine has accessible features, including an audio ballot and enlarged font.
- Due to DRM's advocacy, election judges received instructions to advise voters at check-in that there is an accessible way to read or mark their ballot.
- **Any** voter may ask to use the accessible ballot-marking machine.
- Election judges must provide voters with instructions on how to use the ballot-marking machine and must not require that voters demonstrate a disability to use the machine.

We need nondisabled voters to use the ballot-marking machines!

- The paper ballot used with the ballot-marking machine looks different in size and shape than the pre-printed ballots that are hand marked. Therefore, we need enough voters without disabilities to also request to use the accessible ballot-marking machines to protect the privacy of the voters with disabilities.
- We seek to avoid an association between the distinctively sized and shaped ballots from the ballot-marking devices and the votes of people with disabilities. This is especially important in case of a situation where ballots must be recounted.

How can you help?

At check-in, ask to use the accessible ballot-marking machine. The election judge is not permitted to ask you why you want to use the machine or deny access to the machine.

Tell DRM about your voting experience, good or bad. Were you told about the accessible ballot-marking machine upon check-in at your polling place? Were you allowed to use it? Did you have any difficulties?

Reach the DRM Voting Hotline:

- Call: 443-692-2492
- Or: 800-233-7201, ext. 2492
- TTY: 410-235-5387
- Email: Voting@MDLCLaw.org

Feel the Power of the Disability Vote!