



The 504 North Star Democratic Club is the northern Manhattan chapter of the 504 Democratic Club. Our club focuses on bringing disabled people of color into the political process to advocate for change.

On October 6, 2009, the 504 North Star Democratic Club approved the following resolution:

The 504 North Star Democratic Club resolves that New York State should keep our lever voting machines and accessible ballot marking devices, and not replace them with voter-marked paper ballots and precinct-based optical scanners until our state law requires proper security for both the paper ballots and scanners, and our counties can afford them. Specifically:

All voter-marked paper ballots must be secured by keeping them in full public view before observers from the close of polls until the completion of all audits and the certification of winners.

Statistically-significant audits before observers must be conducted to ensure that the correct winners of all contests are determined.

We recognize the economic difficulties our state faces, and that these difficulties will not be solved for several years. We believe that our state should not risk endangering our elections by replacing our current affordable equipment with new, more expensive election technology that our counties cannot afford to implement properly and with appropriate security.

We urge that funds available for improvement of our elections should be spent to:

Provide training for poll workers so they can better assist voters who wish to use the accessible ballot marking devices that New York now offers in every poll site.

Make poll sites more accessible to voters with disabilities.

Develop voter communication materials in all accessible formats and disseminate such materials multiple times prior to elections through a wide variety of outlets.