



September 11, 2022

Mr Robert Rapoza
Executive Director
Rhode Island Board of Elections
2000 Plainfield Pike
Cranston, RI 02921

Mr. Rapoza,

Back in August we upgraded our version of Electionware for a number of reasons. These included additional security features, new reporting options and the ability to program the ExpressVote.

ES&S no longer manufactures or sells the AutoMARK and therefore the ability to program one is not even an option in any new software including the version currently being run in Rhode Island.

In addition, the last time we performed maintenance on those machines was in April, 2020. Since then we had four statewide elections with the failure rate increasing exponentially. I believe at least one third of those machines have issues.

This is what would have to happen if you even considered using the AutoMarks on Tuesday.

1. The current database would need to be recreated in the old version of software. This would take around 2 hours and would need to be proofed by someone from the state which would be another few hours.
2. The next step would be to burn 395 compact flash cards which would take at least 4 hours.
3. We would need to setup and test 395 AutoMarks, which under normal circumstances would take at least 2 days. Because these machines have not been touched since 2020 it could take longer to find 395 that actually work.
4. The AutoMarks would need to be deployed to the 395 polling locations by 7:00 AM Tuesday morning. This would take at a minimum 4 days to deliver throughout the state.

Thirty five communities have been using the ExpressVote for early voting since August 24 and have not reported any issues. The other four communities using the English and Spanish have not reported any additional issues. Therefore ES&S does not see any reason why you should not use these machines.

Joseph Vitale
Senior Account Manager

ABOUT ES&S: Election Systems & Software (ES&S) is the nation's leading voting systems manufacturer. For more than 40 years, ES&S has been supporting elections by creating and providing secure, accurate and accessible voting equipment to jurisdictions across the country. Learn more about ES&S at www.essvote.com and on Facebook at facebook.com/essvote.