



General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Joint State Government Commission
Room 108 Finance Building, 613 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-4397

Written Testimony of Glenn Pasewicz Regarding 2016 Senate Resolution 394
Voting Technology in Pennsylvania

I am Glenn Pasewicz, executive director of the Joint State Government Commission. I'd like to thank the members of the committee for allowing us the opportunity to present the Commission's report on voting technology in Pennsylvania, authorized by SR394 of 2016.

As an introduction, the Joint State Government Commission is the bicameral, non-partisan public policy and legislative research agency for the General Assembly. The Commission conducts in-depth studies of matters of importance to the members of the legislature. Every project that we undertake comes to us in the form of a resolution, or infrequently, in statute. In other words, when a member of either chamber has an interest in a particular topic, whether it is school district consolidation, the mental health procedures act, the opioid epidemic, or electronic voting technology, he or she can draft a resolution for consideration by the chamber. The resolution goes through the same process as all others, from referral to committee to final adoption on the floor.

Uniquely among the legislative services agencies, and uniquely nationally, so far as I am aware, the Commission is statutorily enabled to establish advisory committees composed of experts in whichever topic area is being studied. The advisors are volunteers who contribute their time, expertise, and resources to assist us in writing these reports. We invite participants from across Pennsylvania to represent the constituencies and stakeholders involved with each particular topic. For Senate Resolution 394, the language was drafted to include advisory committee members who would represent the different parts of the Commonwealth's election system.

Finally, reports typically contain recommendations and, when appropriate, legislative remedies for your consideration. Reports are public documents and are made available both in hardcopy and for download from our website.