Voting machine issue needs citizen interest

Since it is now widely recognized that at least one manufacturer’s voting machines have a major security flaw, what can voters do to see that their vote is properly counted?

1) Write to the State Elections Board members and support strong chain-of-custody security measures for voting machine memory packs. Their staff is drafting these measures, but municipal clerks have written the board and complained that the measures are too tough. This will probably be discussed at the July 19 meeting of the Board.

2) Write to the Elections Board members (17 W. Main St., Madison 53703) and support a program of audits for the November election. You can read more about audits at www.fairelectionswi.com/audits.htm.

3) Contact Governor Doyle about SB-612, which would make manual recounts a thing of the past. Current law allows the Board of Canvassers the option to conduct recounts by machine or by hand. But Governor Doyle is on the verge of signing a bill that would force all recounts of machine-readable ballots to be done by machine. Call your legislators and ask them to explain why they voted for it. Why should we place our close elections completely at the mercy of the automated machines?

Paul Malischke Madison