From: Joyce Taylor

Subject: pva-eo My Personal Story Date: July 16, 2021 at 12:20 AM To: pva-eo@list.nist.gov JT

## **My Personal Story:**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, I went in person to the polls with my son to vote. Once I made known that I was totally blind, I was immediately escorted to the voting machine which was set up and ready to go. And Because I am very familiar with JAWS, which stands for Jobs Access with Speech, I was ready as well and fully capable and able to navigate around the screen with ease. However, the poll attendee never left my side. Every time I entered on my selection, he patted me on the back as if to say "Good Job". With every pat on the back, I thought to myself why is he still standing here? Because I am totally blind, I thought he had departed because it was quiet, but not so. I leaned over to ask my son, is he still here? And the poll worker responded, "I sure am, do you need me to help you"? I kindly responded "Thank You, Sir BUT no thanks, I am fine.

UNFORTUNATELY, Even though I know in my heart he meant well, I had no privacy at all. Every selection was viewed by a stranger, and I believe the SUPPORT AND passing of this particular Bill Will not only allow these machines to be placed universally in every location, But also allow personnel to be fully trained on the do's and don'ts of the Americans Disabilities Voting Rights Act by educating them that we deserve our independence and privacy like every other law abiding citizen.

Thank you,

Dr. Joyce Taylor, VP

Melbourne Space Coast Chapter

Site: West Melbourne off Minton Road, District 17

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