

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 7/16/21 6:04 AM
Received: July 15, 2021
Status: Pending_Post
Tracking No. kr5-0c1f-reol
Comments Due: July 16, 2021
Submission Type: Web

Docket: NIST-2021-0003
RFI: Promoting Access to Voting

Comment On: NIST-2021-0003-0001
Promoting Access To Voting

Document: NIST-2021-0003-DRAFT-0063
Comment on FR Doc # 2021-12619

Submitter Information

Name: Andrew Harmon
Address:
New Hampton, NH, 03256
Email:
Phone:

General Comment

I am a legally blind resident of New Hampton, NH who just recently moved from Keene, NH. I participated in the 2020 presidential election, and while I was fortunate enough to get access to an electronic accessible system for the general election, I was not able to do so for the primary. I was therefore forced to ask someone to help me note down my results, which means I have to rely on another to be able to cast what should be a private vote for any given office of the Congress or President of the United States of America. While I am fortunate that I have folks I can trust, I am in the minority, and frankly it's long past time that we the print disabled have access to the same ballot using the same system that millions of sighted Americans can use any given day of the week. Furthermore, when I had access to a system through the efforts of various organizations like the National Federation of the Blind suing the secretary of state within NH, I had to go through the humiliating process of turning away call after call after call from people who purported to be from the party for whom I voted telling me my ballot had not been counted. This is especially frustrating since at the time I literally lived less than 1 full block from the town clerk's office and could fully verify they HAD, indeed received the ballot and were yet to process it all because there was not a hand-written signature on the outside of the envelope. Please ensure that thousands of blind and print-disabled folks like myself can continue to rely on access to fair, private, and fully accessible voting systems for years to come.