Title: An act to amend the election law, in relation to availability of electronic ballot images.

Statement of Support:

This bill would obligate county and state boards of elections to make scanned ballot images available upon Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests. The bill would require the ballot images to be available no more than one week after an election.

It would increase election transparency by enabling news media, individuals and other parties to verify the raw data of an election, and would thereby enhance public confidence in the state's and counties' voting tabulation process, and in elections generally.

New Yorkers are aware that we need to take impactful steps toward protecting our environment, both now and in the future. It is crucial that New Yorkers have confidence that our voting system accurately and faithfully represents the voice of voters, and that it does not fall victim to the antagonistic actions of hackers or other malfeasance. People and companies that are wealthy and influential enough to keep hidden their assaults on the environment, from evading pollution standards to failing to disclose toxic ingredients in products, are likely also powerful enough to possess the resources necessary to hack an election.

It is important to ensure election transparency and this bill does just that, by ensuring the public has access to ballot images if requested via a FOIL request.

The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter Urges Your Support of A.6589-A/S.286-A