

From: "Marsha Ferri" [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 2006 18:30:24 -0500
To: Heleni Thayre <heleni22@verizon.net>
Subject: RE: FW: for Vote-PAD letter

To Whom It May Concern:

It was a positive refreshing experience to learn about the votepad while attending the New York State American Counsel of the Blind Convention. I have always felt an invasion of privacy while voting, having to have someone with me to help me out. This is certainly a very workable option, and the holes are easy to feel and it gave me a sense of independence using it. I didn't care for the write in part, but I'm sure it could be improved. I have been totally blind from birth and I read braille, but I found the instructions quite lengthy, and others waiting to vote may grow impatient waiting for someone to read all the material before voting. Some blind cannot read braille at all, so if someone was available to read the instructions, it would be helpful. I thought that the votepad was fun to use, and it is not a costly option, and it is easy to duplicate. I heard through the grape vine, however, that it may not comply with all ballet regulations of each state. I hope the votepad could be distributed soon to various voting locations throughout the country. I believe that many more blind would vote if this was available for them to do so.

Sincerely, Marsha Ferri