



Brian E. Corley

Supervisor of Elections
Pasco County

Election Security - A New Year's Resolution

I always begin an election year with renewed excitement of the democratic process, and this year is no exception! At the onset of this election cycle, I am particularly passionate about continuing to learn all I can about election security, and I am committed to being instrumental in its advancement. Without it, I believe our democracy is vulnerable not only from the outside, but from within. It is as important as ever that voters have confidence in the integrity of election systems, as well as assurance that their votes are private and secure.

I am encouraged by the bill known as the Secure Elections Act that was introduced by a bipartisan group of lawmakers in the Senate. The legislation is designed to strengthen the integrity of our election process by providing information and financial resources to voting officials at the local level. Federal agencies would be required to share information on election-related cyber threats, and grants would be available to states to modernize their voting equipment, and to develop cyber security guidelines and best practices.

In keeping with the current findings of the Senate Intelligence Committee that foreign interference existed at some level during the 2016 Election, the senators sponsoring the Secure Elections Act agree that existential threats will continue and that further security is necessary. As one of the states that was targeted in the cyber threat of 2016, that is great news. For the preservation of democracy, the news doesn't get any better.