

For Immediate Release – February 23, 2021

Contact: Daniel Davies (540) 751-8364 or info@votelarock.us

Delegate Dave LaRock calls Virginia Risk Limiting Audit too narrow; calls for statewide forensic audit, joins House and Senate leadership in saying Risk Limiting Audit is lacking.

Hamilton, VA – In a prepared statement released today, Del. LaRock stated: “The ‘Risk Limiting Audit (RLA)’ being conducted in Virginia on Tuesday, February 23rd, would be better named as ‘The Statewide (CYA)’ or ‘Cover Your Butt Audit’. The poor design of this ‘Risk Limiting Audit’ makes it abundantly clear its only purpose is to create a public relations tool to avoid a statewide forensic audit which might well reveal systemic issues including widespread voter fraud.” Del. LaRock said he predicts that in the days ahead there will be a statement from the Dept. of Elections based on this RLA seeking to dispel questions clouding the 2021 election.

LaRock said, “I am quoting a [letter sent to Department of Elections Commissioner Chris Piper from Republican House and Senate leadership](#): “*The audit design described in the Department’s communication may completely omit all scanners of a certain design and will certainly not provide a statistically reliable sample of ballots processed by each type of scanner in use, nor the particular scanners in use in any given locality.*” The letter goes on to say, “*An appropriate RLA would assess the accuracy of the results produced by each localities’ scanners*”.

Stating specific concerns, LaRock said, “Another conspicuous flaw is the RLA design. Again quoting from the [leadership letter to Piper](#), ‘...The communication (from the Dept. of Elections) notes that the statistical method used for RLAs requires few ballots to be examined because of the margin in that election and notes that “...most localities will need to pull very few ballots (some may not need to pull any ballots).”’

Background: Virginia law assigns the duty of performing audits to each locality; instead of following this direction, the Dept. of Elections is controlling the RLA by conducting it through a subcontractor they have chosen. The law also provides for local electoral boards to report results of scanners to the Dept. of Elections, which is very different from validating the accuracy of the outcome of the 2021 election overall.

LaRock said, “Whatever the outcome of this narrow, top-down peek into whether some of the scanner machines performed as intended, it will fall far short of what voters deserve.”

Again, quoting the letter from Republican leadership, “Given the intense interest in election integrity following last November’s election, as well as the results in several elections being much closer than the presidential contest, it is critical that the Department implement an audit designed in accordance with the Code. Ensuring public confidence in Virginia’s election results demands nothing less.”

About Dave LaRock

Delegate Dave LaRock represents the 33rd House District, including parts of Loudoun, Clarke and Frederick Counties. LaRock serves on the Communications, Technology and Innovation Committee and the Counties, Cities and Towns Committee.