AN INTRODUCTION TO

★ VOTE CENTERS and CTCL ★

(aka CENTER FOR TECH AND CIVIC LIFE)

HELLO HOOSIERS!

INDIANA FIRST ACTION is a grassroots volunteer group dedicated to election integrity. We are focused on sharing content that helps Hoosiers understand the flaws in our elections processes, giving them the confidence to engage their elected representation on the issues surrounding our elections. Today's piece will focus on Voting Centers and the influence that the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) has on our elections.

HERE IN INDIANA, we currently have over 50 of 92 counties that utilize Vote Centers. If you are unsure what a vote center is, they eliminate small voting precincts, which voters are specifically assigned to, and create a group of voting locations where a voter can vote at any location in the county. The many reasons behind the push to convert to voting centers include:

- Providing "easier" access for voters to cast their vote.
- Allow for early voting without having to staff and support all precincts for the entirety of the Early-In-Person voting season.
- According to CTCL and the Secretary of State, voting centers make election access "more affordable" for county election boards by minimizing the number of machines and support systems having to be purchased, maintained and monitored.

WHAT MIGHT BE THE TRADE-OFF for all of this convenience, you might ask? All voting centers must use E-Pollbooks, which are connected to the internet. The claim is that this is required so that voters cannot vote twice by going to a different voting center along with ensuring voters are qualified to cast a vote when they arrive. The issue with that is that E-Pollbooks provide real time information on who has and has not cast a vote. While that info is necessary to support voting center activities, it is also available to any nefarious actor who has breached the security protocols used by the state.

NOW WHAT DOES CENTER FOR TECH AND CIVIC LIFE

(hereinafter referred to as CTCL) have to do with these vote centers? Well, they help the local election boards/clerks develop their vote center plans, obtain funding through grants, offer training, as well as support system contacts. Wow, it is the convenience buffet! However, it is important to note that CTCL was started by Tiana Epps-Johnson, a civic technologist; Whitney May, a former election official; and Donny Bridges, a civic data expert; who all have direct links to left-leaning organizations and are hardly bipartisan. According to an investigation issued by the Wisconsin State Senate, CTCL provided the funding for get out the vote operations in primarily democrat cities in Wisconsin. Their operatives had real time access to the voter information from the E-Pollbooks; all of which led to undue private influence on the election. CTCL provided funding to almost all 50 states.

CTCL ALSO HAS DIRECT FUNDING LINKS to such organizations as Google, Facebook, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, The Voting Information Project, Democracy Fund, Rock the Vote, The Knight Foundation and others. Counties obtained "grant" funding (which even included the $330 million from Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg in 2020), and contracting for various services. Indiana counties received over $2 Million for the 2020 elections.

THE CTCL WEB LIBRARY offers programs to "assist" in training election boards and candidates, in such methods as how to "Control information and prevent 'misinformation,'" "How to help secure the public's trust in the 'Safe and Secure Voting Process'" and many other courses. They also offer Cybersecurity training along with system set-up training on how to do "Geo-Enabling Elections."

SO WHAT CAN POSSIBLY GO WRONG? Search the site yourself, submit questions, and we will try and help find the answers or at least who to direct the questions to in your area.

- **CTCL Election Officials**
- **CTCL - COVID-19 Response Grants**
- **CTCL - Our Story**
- **CTCL Board of Directors**
- **CTCL - Key Funders and Partners**