The Future of Elections: Technology Policy & Funding Conference

Wendy Underhill, NCSL
Chairman Matt Masterson, U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)
What We Promised:

• How to manage the elections tech procurement process
• What’s pushing change in voting technology?
• Technology options now (and what the future may hold)
• Sharing of innovations and best practices
• Using data to drive elections administration decisions
• How elections tech can improve security, voter confidence, voter access, and military voter participation
What We *Didn’t* Promise...
Recent Legislative Trends

- **Pre-Election Day**
- **Voter ID**
- **Online Voter Registration**

Recent Legislative Trends


Pre-Election Day: \(\text{Pre-ED Voting}\)

Voter ID: \(\text{Voter ID}\)

Online Voter Registration: \(\text{OVR}\)
Other Issues

- Felon voting rights
- Electoral College issues
- Poll watchers and observers
- Primary types (open, closed, other)
Questions for Policy Change

- What does it mean for security?
- What does it mean for access?
- How much will it cost (or save)?
- Will it increase turnout?
- Does it affect some groups more than others?
- What’s the administrative angle?
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A Brief History of Elections Tech
Paper Ballots and Tabulators
Paper Ballots—1880s
Lever Machines: 1920s
Punch Cards: 1960s
Optical Scan: 1980s
Electronic Voting: 1990s
Electronic Voting: 2000s
Innovations: 2010s
Innovations: Now!
Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002
Where are we now?
Election Admin: It Varies

- 18 states run elections primarily at the state level
  - Uniformity of technology, funding, procedures

- 32 states run elections from the local level
  - Wide variation in practices within these states
What Traits Should Our Elections Systems Have?

1. Accuracy
2. Verifiability
3. Accessibility for disabled voters
4. Cost effective
5. Secure
6. Convenient
7. Lots more
Words from the Wise

“We want a voting system to be fast, reliable and cheap. You can have two but not all three.”

--Merle King, Executive Director, Center for Election Systems, Georgia
Legislative Environment
State Law
State Regs
State Procedures
State Budget

Federal Law
• HAVA
• ADA
• UOCAVA/MOVE
Federal Guidelines
EAC Program

Local Laws
Local Regs
Local Needs
Local Budget
Costs and Funding
“Choose a system that can respond to not only the demands of today, but the desires of 10 years from now.”

--Merle King, Executive Director, Center for Election Systems, Georgia
What’s Pushing Change

Pushing for Change

Resisting Change
Election Security
What States Can Do
Using Elections Technology to Make Better Decisions
Clean Voter Lists: The Gateway to Election Integrity

OR

Trends and Trendsetters in Post-Election Audits and Recounts
Lunch with George Washington
Elections Tech: Procurement and Funding

Who chooses?
Who pays?
Election Tech Innovations

(We’ll hear from people who actually run elections)
Visit the Exhibit Hall
Fun at Commissioner McCormick’s House
Election Modernization is Great! Can Your Tech Keep Up?

Voting Information Project

1. Ranked Choice Voting
Where the Rubber Meets the Road: State Statutes and Certification

OR

Increasing Access for Military and Overseas Voters
Tying it All Together:
Your Questions Answered
NCSL’s Legislative Summit

❖ Boston
❖ August 6-9
CONTACT INFORMATION

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