

Testimony to the United States Senate Committee on Armed Services  
By the Hon. Deborah L. Markowitz  
Secretary of State for the State of Vermont  
President of the National Association of Secretaries of State

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee for giving me this opportunity to speak on behalf of the nation's chief state election officials today. My name is Deborah Markowitz. I am the Vermont Secretary of State and the President of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). It is an honor to appear before you to discuss the status of military voting programs and the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP).

The members of NASS believe that the most precious right of a democracy is the right to vote, and that the members of the U.S. military are making extraordinary personal sacrifices to promote and defend democracy. As an organization whose members include the nation's chief state election officials, NASS is committed to improving the voting process and to making voting as simple as possible for those serving our country.

Unfortunately, state laws regarding postmarks, late primary dates, absentee ballot deadlines and voter registration procedures often inadvertently make voting more complicated for our military voters and overseas citizens. For years, those states with late primaries -- including Vermont -- have worked to convince our legislatures that our late primaries make it extremely difficult for us to use the U.S. mail to get election materials to military and overseas voters in time for them to vote.

In February 2004, NASS passed a resolution urging the federal government to implement an air express ballot delivery plan that would expedite both the delivery and receipt of ballots for military and overseas voters. It is our belief that such a plan would allow a military or overseas voter to deliver a completed ballot to a military Voting Assistance Officer or an appropriate U.S. embassy official by a deadline as close as practical to the election, and still have the ballot delivered to his or her election official no later than noon on the Friday or Monday before Election Day. As an organization, we called on the federal government to implement this service because the Internet voting pilot project for military and overseas voters, SERVE, had just been cancelled.

In July 2004, we called on the states to include voting information for military and overseas citizens on their state websites. NASS also included information on our website for military and overseas citizens--including our resolution language, links to all of the states' election websites and to voting information websites for each branch of the armed forces, as well as state-by-state surveys on issues relevant to military and overseas voters.

While our surveys are not scientific, we do find that posting the results helps us to inform citizens about voting procedures in their state, while keeping the Secretaries abreast of what other states are doing. Our "Single State Office and Method of Delivery for Materials" survey summary included state-by-state contact information that both the Secretaries and the general public could use to get answers to their questions about the states' military and overseas voting

practices. The survey summary also outlined the allowable methods for submitting absentee ballot requests and for returning voter registration applications, FPCAs and completed ballots. In the spring of 2006, we updated the survey to include the question, "What are the allowable methods for sending ballots to military and overseas voters?"

A copy of the survey and copies of our resolutions have been included for your review.

The Secretaries have worked in close cooperation with their legislatures to amend state laws to keep current with technological advances. The use of email and faxing for much of the information exchanged between a voter and an election official is now allowed in most states. However, it is important to note that most states still require the actual voted ballot be returned by mail or express delivery.

We are eager to work with the federal agencies that have been established to assist military and overseas voters. Over the years, the states have worked closely with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) on various pilot programs, including the 2000 Internet Voting project, 2004 SERVE project, Expedited Postal Programs and now IVAS. NASS is working with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) to determine how best to improve communication between federal, state and local governments. NASS staff members provide regular updates to the Secretaries by sending out email notices and summaries about programs at the federal level. Unlike federal agencies, the association isn't constricted by federal laws governing written communications, so NASS is able to give its members advance notice of deadlines and official communications that will be arriving via US mail from federal agencies like FVAP, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In addition to email communications and updates, NASS also invites the federal agencies to present their programs at our winter and summer conferences each year.

We are very excited about the IVAS initiatives FVAP is implementing for the November 2006 elections. The challenge we all face is timing. In order for any program to be successful, it must be implemented effectively, but it must also be implemented early. The states need time to put the proper procedures (and in some cases new laws) in place and time to notify and train local election officials. Our local election officials will be responsible for ensuring that any new election practice is successfully implemented.

We also share responsibility with the FVAP for making military and overseas voters aware of the new services available to them. The states and localities that are able to implement some or all of the initiatives this year will be a tremendous resource for those who will follow them. We all look forward to building on the success of the programs being utilized this year.

In Vermont we have worked hard to make it possible for our overseas and military voters to participate. We have found ways to be flexible, within the context of our state laws, so that ballots can be faxed or e-mailed overseas so that there can be a great chance of them being voted and then returned to Vermont by Election Day so that they can be counted. We have a special page on our website for overseas and military voters so that they can have easy access to all the information they need to register and vote by mail, and we are very happy to be participating in the new IVAS project to accept automated FPCA's.

Looking into the future we are hoping that technology will provide additional solutions to permit our service men and women, and our overseas citizens to vote easily and quickly. This year, in Vermont, we are using the IVS Vote-By-Phone system to permit voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently at our polling places. This system permits a voter to use the telephone keypad to mark a paper ballot which is printed out in our Elections Center, and which can then be counted with the rest of the ballots on Election Day. I believe that this technology holds great promise for use by our overseas and military voters. We have encouraged the FVAP to consider whether this innovative technology could be broadly deployed to solve what is a serious problem for our service men and women and for our overseas citizens.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I thank you again for the invitation to speak here today. If I or NASS can be of any assistance on the issues we've discussed, I hope you won't hesitate to call on us.



## **Military and Overseas Citizens Voting Assistance Resolution**

Adopted February 15, 2004

*WHEREAS*, the U.S. Department of Defense has cancelled the military and overseas citizen Internet voting project for the 2004 election; and

*WHEREAS*, mail from military members and U.S. citizens stationed overseas often takes up to three weeks for delivery; and

*WHEREAS*, military and overseas citizens, particularly those serving in areas of conflict, deserve a system that can deliver their completed ballots in a timely manner;

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, that the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) urges the federal government to implement an air express delivery process for military and U.S. citizens stationed overseas so that voters can deliver a completed ballot to the Voting Assistance Officer on a military base or the appropriate official at a U.S. embassy by a deadline as close as practical to the election and have the ballots delivered to the voters' election officials no later than noon on the Friday (Monday) before Election Day.

Expires at the Winter Conference 2009



**RESOLUTION ON VOTING INFORMATION FOR MILITARY AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS  
ON THE WEB**

*Adopted on July 19, 2004*

**Whereas**, Uniformed Services, including the United States Armed Forces, merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are serving the United States of America in many locations throughout the world today;

**Whereas**, the Uniformed Services are making extraordinary personal sacrifices in service to the United States of America to promote and defend democracy;

**Whereas**, the most precious right of a democracy is the right to vote;

**Whereas**, the Constitution of the United States of America guarantees the right to vote to all citizens who are of legal age on election day;

**Whereas**, the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, has made significant changes to federal elections laws affecting Absentee Voting by Military Personnel and their Dependents;

**Whereas**, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) website provides and maintains, HAVA elections information regarding Absentee Voting to Military Personnel and their Dependents serving the United States of America;

**Whereas**, the NASS website provides a link to each state's elections web site with specific elections information regarding Absentee Voting to Military Personnel and their Dependents serving the United States of America;

**Whereas**, the United States Department of Defense currently provides a safe and secure military electronic communication transmission system network to the Uniformed Services during times of war and peace;

**Whereas**, a safe and secure electronic communication transmission system network is necessary to link and interact with HAVA elections information on the NASS and individual state's elections websites regarding Absentee Voting to Military Personnel and their Dependents serving the United States of America throughout the world;

**Therefore**, NASS resolves that each state's elections website provide specific voter information regarding Absentee Voting to Military Personnel and their Dependents serving the United States of America; and further, that each state URL provide an e-mail link to the United States Department of Defense electronic communication network; and,

**Therefore**, NASS requests that the United States Department of Defense communicate by e-mail throughout their electronic communication network the availability of this voter information including a hotlink to the NASS website which provides a link to each state's elections website with specific voter information regarding Absentee Voting to Military Personnel and their Dependents serving the United States of America.

**Expires at Summer Conference 2009**



**Military and Overseas Voters Survey – Single State Office and Method of Delivery for Materials  
Responses as of 6-29-06**

State	Designated Single State Office for Voting Info	Will Single State Office Receive all Materials	Methods for Absentee Ballot Requests from Military and Overseas Voters	Allowable methods for Sending Ballots to Military and Overseas Voters	Methods for Returning Voter Registration Apps (FCPA) and Completed Ballots
AL	Elections Division Office of the Secretary of State P.O. Box 5616 Montgomery, AL 36103 334-242-7210	No. In AL the circuit clerks or their designees serve as absentee election managers.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> Hand delivery by the voter, US Mail, or in the case of a voter who wishes to cast an emergency absentee ballot, hand delivery by the voter's designee.	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> by hand delivery or United States mail. <u>See</u> Alabama Code Section 17-10-9	Hand delivery by the voter or US mail
AK	Division of Elections Office Phone: (907) 465-4611 Fax: (907) 465-3203 Website: <a href="http://www.elections.state.ak.us">www.elections.state.ak.us</a>	Yes for all absentee requests; voter reg applications sent to any regional office or Director's Office	Mail, in person or fax; must be received at least 10 days before election	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> In person, by mail and by fax.	<b>Voter Registration Apps</b> - mail, in person or fax. <b>Absentee Ballots</b> - mail, in person or fax. Ballots must be received 10 days after election day, if mailed from US; must be received 15 days after election day, if mailed outside the US.
AS	American Samoa Election Office Phone: 684-633-2522 Fax: 684-633-7116 Email: <a href="mailto:asselect@samoatelco.com">asselect@samoatelco.com</a>	Yes	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> - mail and express delivery	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> U.S. mail	<b>Voter reg apps</b> – mail and express delivery <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail and express delivery
AZ	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 602-542-8683 Fax: 602-542-6172 Website: <a href="http://www.azsos.gov">www.azsos.gov</a>	No. If received by the state, the information is immediately forwarded to the appropriate county.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> - phone, mail, fax, email and county website links.	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> Mail, overnight mail, fax, or by other electronic format approved by the secretary of state	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, fax and electronically if using <a href="http://www.servicearizona.com">www.servicearizona.com</a> <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail or fax
AR	Secretary of State's Office/Election Div Phone: 501-682-3471 Fax: 501-682-3408 Email: <a href="mailto:general_info@sosmail.state.ar.us">general_info@sosmail.state.ar.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us">www.sosweb.state.ar.us</a>	Not exclusively of the counties. Yes, with inclusion of the counties	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – in person, by designated bearer, by mail, by fax, by authorized agent.		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – by mail and in person <b>Absentee ballots</b> – in person, by mail, by designated bearer, by authorized agent.
CA	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 916-657-2166 Fax: 916-653-3214 Email: <a href="mailto:mov@ss.ca.gov">mov@ss.ca.gov</a> Web <a href="http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm">http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm</a>	No However, the SOS office will accept applications and ballots as a backup, much as the office does for voter	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – voter may fax application and state may fax ballot	<b>Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> County election officials utilize fax, overnight mail, US mail. In addition, various counties within the state have the ability to deliver ballots to MOV by email.	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail (need original signature) <b>Absentee ballot</b> – mail, express delivery

		registration apps and forward them to appropriate county			
CO	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 303-894-2200 Fax: 303-869-4861 Email: <a href="mailto:elections@sos.state.co.us">elections@sos.state.co.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.co.us">www.sos.state.co.us</a>	No We strongly urge individuals to send these materials directly to their county, but we will forward if we receive them.	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – voter may fax or mail request and state may fax ballot	<b>Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> A ballot may be provided to military and overseas voters via mail and facsimile. Military personnel that <b>do not have access to a fax machine</b> may receive a ballot via e-mail. However, this option is not available for the 2006 Primary Election.	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – must be mailed or delivered in person <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail or fax
CT	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 860-509-6100 Fax: 860-509-6127 Email: <a href="mailto:lead@po.state.ct.us">lead@po.state.ct.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sots.state.ct.us">www.sots.state.ct.us</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – fax, mail, express delivery		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, express delivery
DE	Dept of Elections for New Castle County Phone: 302-577-3464 Fax: 302-577-6545 Email: <a href="mailto:absentee@state.de.us">absentee@state.de.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.state.de.us/doe_ncc/absentee_de/index.shtml">www.state.de.us/doe_ncc/absentee_de/index.shtml</a>	NO. Mail in voter registration applications and returned absentee ballots are sent directly to the Department of Elections in the respective county.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> By mail and by FAX.	<b>Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Blank Ballots can be sent by fax <b>NOTE:</b> In emergencies, the Commissioner of Elections after consultation with the Governor and the Director, FVAP, may direct the use of special procedures to facilitate absentee voting by UOCAVA citizens directly affected who are eligible to vote in the State (15 DE Code, § 5524).	<b>Voter registration apps</b> By mail and by FAX for FPCAs and <b>Absentee ballots</b> by mail for completed ballots. <b>NOTE:</b> In emergencies, the Commissioner of Elections after consultation with the Governor and the Director, FVAP, may direct the use of special procedures to facilitate absentee voting by UOCAVA citizens directly affected who are eligible to vote in the State (15 DE Code, § 5524).
FL	Florida Division of Elections Phone: 850-245-6200 Fax: 850-245-6217 Email: <a href="mailto:DivElections@dos.state.fl.us">DivElections@dos.state.fl.us</a> Website: <a href="http://election.dos.state.fl.us">http://election.dos.state.fl.us</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – mail, telephone, email or fax		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mailed or delivered <b>Absentee ballots</b> - all absentee overseas ballots, military or otherwise can be returned by mail or fax. Non-overseas military ballots must be returned by mail.
GA	Secretary of State/Elections Office Phone: 404-656-2871 Fax: 404-651-9531 Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.ga.us">www.sos.state.ga.us</a>	Mail in voter registration applications are sent to the elections division. Ballots need to go directly to the county voter	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – fax, mail, express delivery or hand delivery		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mailed or hand delivered because it must include an original handwritten signature. <b>Absentee ballots</b> - mail

		registration office.			
ID	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 208-334-2300 Fax: 208-334-2282 Email: <a href="mailto:elections@idsos.state.id.us">elections@idsos.state.id.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.idsos.state.id.us">www.idsos.state.id.us</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – any method of delivery that contains a signature including fax and email with scanned signature	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> Idaho law provides for the delivery of ballots by "mail or by other appropriate means." In cases of emergency, the Secretary of State can prescribe special procedures (such as faxing ballots) to facilitate delivery and return of absentee ballots	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – any method of delivery that contains a signature including fax and email with scanned signature <b>Absentee ballots</b> – any method that allows return of a ballot sealed in the envelope – fax only in extreme emergency
IL	Illinois State Board of Elections Phone: 866-513-1121 Fax: 217-782-5959 Email: <a href="mailto:crcay@elections.il.gov">crcay@elections.il.gov</a> Website: <a href="http://www.elections.il.gov">www.elections.il.gov</a>	Don't solicit them, but will accept and send on to the appropriate election jurisdiction	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, fax, email	<b>Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Mail and overnight mail	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, express delivery <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, in-person
IN	Secretary of State's Office (Elections Div) Phone: 317-232-3939 Fax: 317-233-6793 Email: <a href="mailto:elections@iec.state.in.us">elections@iec.state.in.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.IN.gov">www.sos.IN.gov</a>	State will accept voter registration applications and forward to correct county. Absentee ballot applications must go to county, but state will forward any absentee ballots to the appropriate county. All completed ballots must go to county	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, hand delivered, in person by fax		<b>Voter reg apps</b> – mail, hand delivered, in person <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, hand delivered, in person, fax, bonded express couriers and if sanctioned by the DOD, email.
IA					
KS	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 785-296-4561 or 800-262-8683 Fax: 785-291-3051 Email: <a href="mailto:kssos@kssos.org">kssos@kssos.org</a> Website: <a href="http://www.kssos.or">www.kssos.or</a>	No. However, the Secretary of State's office will accept applications and ballots as a backup, much as the office does for voter registration apps and forward them to appropriate county.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, fax or in person		<b>Voter registration apps</b> - mail or in person <b>Absentee ballots</b> for federal services voters may be submitted by mail, fax or in person.
KY	Kentucky Board of Elections Phone: 800-246-1399 or 502-573-7100 Fax: 502-573-4369 <a href="http://www.elect.ky.gov">www.elect.ky.gov</a>	State will accept voter reg apps and forward to correct county. All absentee ballot requests and completed ballots must go to county.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, overnight mail service, fax using DOD system, and email using DOD system.	<b>Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> <b>Military</b> - mail, fax using DOD system and email using DOD system.	<b>Voter reg apps</b> – mail, overnight mail service, hand deliver, fax using DOD system, email using DOD system. <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, overnight mail service.
LA	Secretary of State's Office	Voter registration	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> -		<b>Voter registration apps</b>

	Elections Program Phone: 800-883-2805 Fax: 225-922-1167 <a href="mailto:elections@sos.louisiana.gov">elections@sos.louisiana.gov</a>	applications and absentee ballots should go directly to the parish registrar of voters' office; however, the state will forward any such documents upon receipt to the appropriate parish registrar of voters	Military personnel should check with their commanding officers who will provide the forms to request absentee ballots. U.S. citizens residing overseas should send a request in writing to the parish registrar of voters' offices where they are registered. The ballots should be mailed back at no expense to them in the provided U.S. postage paid envelope. Absentee ballot requests may be submitted by mail, facsimile (fax), or in person.		- mail, hand delivery or fax only from a member of the military or a person residing outside of the United States. <b>Absentee Ballots</b> Ballots for military personnel and U.S. citizens residing overseas must be received by the parish registrar of voters' office no later than 4:00pm on Election Day. They may be received by mail, in person, express delivery or fax.
ME	Secretary of State's Office/Elections Div Phone: 207-624-7650 Fax: 207-287-6545 Email: <a href="mailto:cec.elections@maine.gov">cec.elections@maine.gov</a> Website: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/">www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/</a>	No	<b>Absentee Ballot Requests</b> – mail, fax, hand delivery, express delivery and by telephone		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, hand delivery, express delivery (need original signature) <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, hand delivery, express delivery, by fax only in emergency situations as authorized by SOS.
MD	State Board of Elections Phone: 410-269-2840 Fax: 410-974-2019 Website: <a href="http://www.elections.state.md.us">www.elections.state.md.us</a>	State will accept voter registration applications and forward to correct county.	<b>Absentee Ballot Requests</b> – mail, express delivery, and fax – but must be received at least 7 days prior to election or must be done in person.	<b>Deliver Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Mail and fax and overnight mail at the expense of the voter	<b>Voter reg apps</b> – mail and express delivery because need an original signature. <b>Absentee ballots</b> –mail and express delivery can be used as long as it meets the definition of "timely" (if the ballot was: (1)mailed before election day; and (2) received by USPS or private mail carrier by 10am on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday after the gubernatorial primary election or 10am on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday after other elections.
MA					
MI					
MN	Secretary of State's Office 651-296-2079 651-215-0682 Email: <a href="mailto:secretary.state@state.mn.us">secretary.state@state.mn.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.mn.us">www.sos.state.mn.us</a>	MN statutes directs that absentee ballot applications be submitted to the County Auditor	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> –(via FPCA or state military application) – mail (regular, express), fax, email (scanned copy	<b>Deliver ballots to Military/Overseas</b> MN statute provides that ballot, instructions and return envelopes shall be sent by first class mail to addresses within the cont. US and by airmail to	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – voters covered under UOCAVA are not required to register <b>Absentee ballots</b> – regular

		where the voter last maintained residence. However, also says that if an application is received by the SOS, it will be forwarded immediately to the appropriate county.	– pending legislation)	addresses outside the US. Any special services provided by the US Govt. for the mailing of voting materials made be made use of.	mail, express mail
MS	Secretary of State's Office, Elections Division Phone: 800-829-6786 Fax: 601-359-1499 Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.ms.us">www.sos.state.ms.us</a>	This office will not receive all voting materials. We will coordinate absentee applications and ballots transmitted by email. All other materials should be transmitted directly to Registrars.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – in person, mail, fax, email using FPCA	<b>Deliver ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Mail, fax and email	<b>Absentee ballots</b> – in person, mail, fax or email using at the FPCA.
MO	Secretary of State's Office Phone 573-751-2301 Fax: 573-526-3242 Email: <a href="mailto:elections@sos.mo.gov">elections@sos.mo.gov</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.mo.gov">www.sos.mo.gov</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, overnight delivery, fax		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, overnight delivery <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, overnight delivery, or for persons in the federal service, when sent from a location determined by the Secretary of State to be inaccessible on election day, shall be allowed to return their absentee ballot cast by fax or under a program approved by the DOD for electronic transmission of election materials.
MT	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 406-444-5346 Fax: 406-444-2023 Email: <a href="mailto:soselection@mt.gov">soselection@mt.gov</a> Website: <a href="http://sos.mt.gov">sos.mt.gov</a>	Don't solicit them, but will accept and send on to the appropriate election jurisdiction.	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – mail, telephone, fax or email if available in the county	<b>Deliver Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Counties deliver ballots and will deliver by any method available and approved by county. State law allows ballots to be sent by mail, overnight mail, fax or electronically if facilities are available.	<b>Voter Registration apps</b> – mail, fax or email if available in the county <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, fax or email if available in the county.
NE	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 402-471-2555 Fax: 402-471-7834 Email: <a href="mailto:ElectionsTabulation@sos.ne.gov">ElectionsTabulation@sos.ne.gov</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.ne.us">www.sos.state.ne.us</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, fax State can now also fax absentee ballots to military and overseas voters.	<b>Deliver Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Mail, overnight mail and fax transmission	<b>Voter Reg apps</b> –mail, FPCA is accepted by fax. <b>Absentee ballots</b> - mail
NV					
NH	Secretary of State's Office (Elections Div) Phone: 603-271-3242. Fax: 603-271-6316.	No	<b>Voter reg requests</b> – fax <b>Absentee ballot request</b> - fax		<b>Voter reg</b> – mail <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail

	Email: <a href="mailto:elections@state.nh.us/sos">elections@state.nh.us/sos</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.nh.gov">www.sos.nh.gov</a>				
NJ					
NM	Secretary of State's Office 800-477-3632 505-827-8403 Email: <a href="mailto:denise.lamb@state.nm.us">denise.lamb@state.nm.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.nm.us">www.sos.state.nm.us</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – fax		<b>Voter reg</b> – fax <b>Absentee ballots</b> – fax, but voter must sign an affidavit waiving secrecy of ballot
NY					
NC	State Board of Elections Phone: 919-733-7173 Fax: 919-715-0351 Website: <a href="http://www.sboe.state.nc.us">www.sboe.state.nc.us</a>	The State Board has a plan in place since 2002 for the electronic transmission of the valid voter registration apps, absentee ballot requests and absentee ballots.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – fax, email, snail mail	<b>Deliver Ballots to Military/Overseas Voters</b> Transmit ballot to absentee military voter via fax or mail. Overseas citizen can receive only by mail.	<b>Voter registration apps</b> – fax, email, snail mail <b>Absentee ballots</b> – fax, email, snail mail, commercial courier
ND	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 701-328-4146 Fax: 701-328-1690 Email: <a href="mailto:loliver@state.nd.us">loliver@state.nd.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.state.nd.us/sec/">www.state.nd.us/sec/</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – fax, mail, email, express delivery	<b>Deliver Ballots to Military/Overseas</b> Mail, fax, email attachment	<b>Voter reg</b> – no voter registration in ND. <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, fax or email attachment
OH					
OK	Oklahoma State Election Board Phone: 405-521-2391 Fax: 405-521-6457 Email: <a href="mailto:elections@oklaosf.state.ok.us">elections@oklaosf.state.ok.us</a> Website: <a href="http://www.elections.state.ok.us">www.elections.state.ok.us</a>	State accepted materials on behalf of counties prior to HAVA and will continue after HAVA. For dating purposes, receipt at the state is the same as receipt at the county.	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – mail, fax and state can fax ballot to voter		<b>Voter reg</b> – state does not require registration for military and overseas voters. The FPCA (or a letter with same info) is treated as a request for absentee ballots. <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, private mail (delivery) service if such service provides delivery documentation and fax only if transit time is insufficient for U.S. mail
OR	Secretary of State/Elections Division Phone: 503-986-1518 Fax: 503-373-7414 <a href="mailto:Elections-division@sosinet.sos.state.or.us">Elections-division@sosinet.sos.state.or.us</a> <a href="http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/elechp.htm">www.sos.state.or.us/elections/elechp.htm</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot request</b> – any method of delivery that contains a signature, including fax		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, hand delivered in person <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, hand delivered in person
PA	Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation Phone: 717-787-5280 Fax: 717-787-2854 Website: <a href="http://www.dos.state.pa">www.dos.state.pa</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – fax followed by mail and express delivery		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, personal delivery and express delivery.
RI	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 401-222-2340	State passed law in 2003 that required	<b>Absentee ballot request-</b> can use FPCA form and		<b>Voter reg</b> – state does not require registration for

	<p>Fax: 401-222-1444  Email: <a href="mailto:elections@sec.state.ri.us">elections@sec.state.ri.us</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.state.ri.us/elections">www.state.ri.us/elections</a></p>	<p>SOS office to coordinate all HAVA responsibilities. Also provided that all <b>electronic</b> FPCA's go directly to SOS. All other mail ballot applications and FPCA's go to locals</p>	<p>fax or can use regular state mail ballot, but that must be mailed.</p>		<p>UOCAVA voters. If choose to register, voters can use form on website or the national form and can mail. Also can use FPCA form and fax.  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – state mails ballots and faxes FPCA ballot requests. All mail ballots must be mailed or delivered to state by 9pm on election night. Exception – those voters who faxed FPCA can also fax back completed ballot by 9pm on election night.</p>
SC	<p>State Election Commission  Phone: 803-734-9060  Fax: 803-734-9366  Website: <a href="http://www.state.sc.us/scsec">www.state.sc.us/scsec</a></p>	No	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – call, fax, or write their county voter registration office</p>		<p><b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail or fax, but if faxed, must also send hard copy with original signature.  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – military in areas of declared war may fax ballots to county voter registration office. Otherwise, overseas and other military may mail completed ballots.</p>
SD	<p>Secretary of State's Office  Phone: 605-773-3537  Fax: 605-773-6580  Email: <a href="mailto:sdsos@state.sd.us">sdsos@state.sd.us</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.sdsos.gov">www.sdsos.gov</a></p>	No	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b>- mail or express delivery</p>		<p><b>Voter reg apps</b>– mail or express delivery  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail or express delivery</p>
TN	<p>State Coordinator of Elections Office  Phone: 615-741-7956  Fax: 615-741-1278  Email: <a href="mailto:Tennessee.elections@state.tn.us">Tennessee.elections@state.tn.us</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.state.tn.us/election.htm">www.state.tn.us/election.htm</a></p>	No	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – fax or mail</p>	<p><b>Ballots to Military/Overseas</b>  U.S. mail. County can overnight at voter expense</p>	<p><b>Voter reg apps</b> - mail  <b>Absentee ballots</b> - mail</p>
TX	<p>Secretary of State's Office (Elections Div)  Phone: 800-252-VOTE  Fax: 512-475-2811 Fax  Website: <a href="http://www.sos.state.tx.us">www.sos.state.tx.us</a></p>	No	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – FPCA's may be received by fax or mail</p>		<p><b>Voter reg apps</b> – Federal Postcard Applications can be faxed or mailed  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – generally have to be returned by mail, but a military voter serving in a combat or hazardous duty zone may return ballot by fax.</p>
UT	<p>Office of the Lieutenant Governor  Phone: 801-538-1041  Fax: 801-538-1133  Email: <a href="mailto:elections@utah.gov">elections@utah.gov</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.elections.utah.gov">www.elections.utah.gov</a></p>	No	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – Fax, phone, website, email, mail</p>		<p><b>Voter reg apps</b> – fax at the discretion of the county clerk  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – fax at the discretion of the county clerk, ballots must be clearly postmarked before election day.</p>
VT	<p>Secretary of State's Office</p>	Yes – for military	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b></p>	<p><b>Ballots to military/overseas</b></p>	<p><b>Voter reg apps</b>- mail, express</p>

	<p>Phone: 802-828-2363          Fax: 802-828-5171          Email: <a href="mailto:dcrossman@sec.state.vt.us">dcrossman@sec.state.vt.us</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.sec.state.vt.us">www.sec.state.vt.us</a></p>	<p>and overseas voters          – not for persons currently residing in VT</p>	<p>– applications and ballot requests can be done by fax, mail, email, express delivery and telephone. Ballots can be sent to the voter by mail, express delivery or fax</p>	<p>a ballot can be sent to military or overseas voters by mail, special delivery (overnight mail, fed ex, DHL, UPS etc-- if the voter or someone pays for it) or by fax.</p>	<p>delivery  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail or express delivery in an inside envelope with a certificate (sent by the state) signed and affixed to the inside of the envelope</p>
VA	<p>Virginia State Board of Elections          Uniformed and Overseas Citizen Voting Coordinator          Phone: 804-864-8932          Fax: 804-786-2045          Email: <a href="mailto:Vickie.Williams@sbe.virginia.gov">Vickie.Williams@sbe.virginia.gov</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.sbe.state.va.us">www.sbe.state.va.us</a></p>	No	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b>          – mail, fax, email attachment or in person. Federal Post Card Applications and Virginia State Absentee Ballot applications available<sup>4</sup> in a PDF format on Virginia’s website.</p>	<p><b>Ballots to military/overseas</b>          Allows for the transmission of ballots by email or fax to a qualified military and/or overseas VA voter who has requested it. However the voter is still required to print out the ballot and oath complete them in the specified manner and return them by mail to the specific electoral board.          This program has two components. The Emergency Program allows for Active duty uniformed service members serving overseas or living outside the Continental US to receive their ballot electronically (fax or email attachment) The Pilot Program allows for all other overseas citizens living and working overseas to receive their ballot electronically (fax or email attachment). The Pilot Program is limited to counties or cities which have established central absentee voter election districts and whose electoral board opts in to the pilot. The applicant is encouraged to apply to have their ballot electronically transmitted.</p>	<p><b>Voter registration apps</b> – mail, in person or thru a designated voter registration agency  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – in person, mail or commercial delivery at his or her own expense.</p>
WA	<p>Secretary of State’s Office          Phone: 800-448-4881 or 360-902-4180          Fax: 360-664-4619          Email: <a href="mailto:elections@secstate.wa.gov">elections@secstate.wa.gov</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.secstate.wa.gov">www.secstate.wa.gov</a></p>	<p>Yes and No. SOS is the recipient for accepting all valid voter registration apps and often receives absentee ballot requests, but they are forwarded on to counties for processing. Continue to inform voters to send their requests and completed ballots</p>	<p><b>Absentee ballot requests</b>          – email, fax, mail, fed ex</p>	<p><b>Ballots to military/overseas</b>          Currently, one or more counties deliver blank ballots upon request by email, fax, overnight mail, and by posting a sample ballot on a web site.</p>	<p><b>Voter registration apps</b> – can be returned by mail, in-person or through designated registration agency  <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail or other delivery which allows for a signature on the oath and a postmark or sent date of election day or earlier. A voter can choose electronic trans but the original must follow within 7 days. Electronic transmission requires the ballot</p>

		directly to counties			be duplicated in order to be tabulated.
WV	WV Secretary of State's Office Elections Division 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East Charleston, WV 25305	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – Application can be sent by mail, fax and email	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> Mail, hand delivery	<b>Voter registration apps</b> –hand and mail <b>Absentee ballots</b> – hand and mail
WI	Wisconsin State Elections Board Phone: 608-266-8005, 866-VOTEWIS Fax: 608-267-0500 Email: <a href="mailto:seb@seb.state.wi.us">seb@seb.state.wi.us</a> Website: <a href="http://elections.state.wi.us">http://elections.state.wi.us</a>	No	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – fax, mail and state can send ballot by fax or email	<b>Ballots to military/overseas</b> Sends blank ballots 90 days before primary and general to military and overseas voters via mail and will fax and email upon request. Also have an email program for national guard currently deployed.	<b>Voter reg apps</b> – fax, mail <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail
WY	Secretary of State's Office Phone: 307-777-7186 Fax: 307-777-7640 Email: <a href="mailto:elections@state.wy.us">elections@state.wy.us</a> Website: <a href="http://soswy.state.wy.us">http://soswy.state.wy.us</a>	No, but the state will forward all requests to the appropriate county clerk.	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – any method – email, fax, mail, etc		<b>Voter registration applications</b> – mail <b>Absentee ballots</b> - mail
DC	DC Board of Elections and Ethics Phone: 202-727-2525 Fax: 202-347-2648 Website: <a href="http://www.dcboee.org">www.dcboee.org</a>	Yes	<b>Absentee ballot requests</b> – mail, fax		<b>Voter registration apps</b> – Overseas voters return by mail <b>Absentee ballots</b> – mail, military may return by fax if they state the reason preventing them from mailing a voted ballot within the 45-day period and waive their right to a secret ballot. Pending regulations will extend the right to fax a ballot to all overseas voters.

Compiled by the National Association of Secretaries of State

