



An Overdue Reform

**The Need for Statewide
Computerized Voter
Registration Systems**

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This report was written by Charis Varnum and David Callahan with assistance from Sarah Tobias. The contents of the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Demos Board of Trustees. For further information, please contact Jason Tarricone at jtarricone@demos-usa.org.

Demos: A Network for Ideas and Action
155 Avenue of the Americas, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10013
212.633.1405 (phone)
212.633.2015 (fax)
www.demos-usa.org

Summary and Recommendations

The Problem

- The 2000 election revealed problems in many states with how voter lists are maintained. Lack of up-to-date and easily accessible statewide computerized voter registration lists deprived numerous people of the ability to vote on election day because they were not on voting lists.
- Computerized voter registration lists help to increase participation by ensuring that changes or additions to voting lists are made in a timely fashion. Computerized systems also allow poll workers to access registration records from polling places and thus resolve election day problems.
- Only 10 states have systems in which voter information is automatically transferred to a central statewide database and updated immediately via computer. Fewer than 10 other states are now actively moving toward such systems. The technological infrastructure for election administration lags far behind that for other state governmental functions, such as motor vehicles and policing.
- Statewide computerized systems greatly facilitate compliance with the provisions of the 1993 National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). Computerized systems can help ensure that the voter registration applications taken in by state motor vehicle departments and social service agencies are transferred to election officials quickly so that new registrants will find their names on voting lists on election day. Computerized systems also facilitate the collecting and reporting of data that is required by states under the NVRA.
- Modern statewide registration systems greatly facilitate the implementation of election day registration procedures, or allow states to reduce the length of deadlines before election day for registering. Election day registration can increase voter participation by allowing people who become interested in elections in the last days before election day to vote.
- The Federal Election Commission has repeatedly urged states to update their systems for collecting, maintaining, and accessing voter registration records. This recommendation has been echoed by nearly half a dozen bipartisan commissions or groups working on electoral reform issues in the wake of the 2000 election, including the National Commission on Federal Election Reform.

Policy Recommendations

- All states that do not have computerized statewide systems should move forward in creating such systems. These efforts should not be contingent on federal assistance and should not be set aside because of fiscal pressures related to the current economic downturn.
- New statewide systems should be designed to be used by poll workers to facilitate election day registration as well as to resolve problems with voter lists at polling places. New statewide systems should also be designed to link together election agencies with those agencies relevant to the NVRA so that new registrations under the NVRA are included in voting lists without delay.
- Congress should move forward quickly to make available major new funding for improving election systems in the states. Funds appropriated should be adequate to ensure that all states receive the assistance they need to create statewide computerized systems.
- The Federal Election Commission should play an active role in tracking state efforts to computerize voting lists; analyzing the challenges of this process; and disseminating information widely about “best practices” in this area. The FEC should take the lead role in exploring and developing solutions to the challenge of ensuring that new statewide computerized systems are maximally compatible with each other.

Overview

Anyone who has ever been stopped by a state trooper for a traffic violation knows that the computer systems used to maintain motor vehicle records are very technologically advanced. Sitting in their patrol cars, state troopers can instantly access vast amounts of centralized data about motorists. A comparable commitment to maintaining and accessing voter registration records, however, does not exist in most states—a problem that undermines the effective functioning of American democracy.

The controversy surrounding the 2000 presidential election dramatically underscores the need to improve the quality of voter registration lists. In at least 25 states, inaccurate or purged lists prevented some eligible voters from casting ballots and caused widespread frustration at the polls. The best way for states to improve list quality, and thus ensure that all voters who come to the polls can vote, is to establish statewide integrated voter registration databases, along with safeguards adequate to protect voters from erroneous purges. Such systems can also play a critical role in facilitating new reform efforts aimed at increasing voter participation, such as allowing for election day registration.

Less than half of all states either have state-of-the-art voter registration lists or have plans to create them. The Federal Election Commission has repeatedly urged states to update their systems for collecting, maintaining, and accessing voter registration records. Much new work in this area needs to be done, and federal and state funds are necessary to make this possible.

Computerized Lists: A Critical Reform

Statewide voter registration systems are growing in popularity because of their ability to facilitate registration, reduce problems with voting lists, and ease the burden on election officials. A decentralized system can never generate an up-to-date voter registration list; a fully integrated statewide system potentially can. Such a system can compare voter registration lists against other records and registration lists; update voter records; facilitate the removal of names when voters become ineligible; and automate many of the data collection and reporting duties required under the National Voter Registration Act, commonly known as the “motor voter” law.

Automation also has the potential to increase voter participation. Voter turnout tends to increase as barriers to registration are lowered. Computerized registration systems can facilitate election day registration by enabling local election officials to access statewide voter databases. Equipping polling places with computers can allow poll workers to verify voter eligibility and can help enable registration at the polls. Computerized registration systems are likewise

critical for allowing states to reduce the deadlines by which voters must register in order to participate in elections. Most states have registration deadlines well before elections, with the vast majority of states requiring voters to register at least 25 days before an election. Election officials typically argue that long deadlines are required to ensure that the new registrations can be included on voting lists for polling places by election day. Computerized registration systems can dramatically reduce or eliminate this delay.

The potential impact of allowing election day registration or reducing registration deadlines is considerable. Voter participation in elections can be greatly affected by the ability of citizens to register to vote in the weeks and days leading up to election day, when public interest tends to be strongest. Surveys during election cycles consistently show that a significant percentage of Americans pay close attention to elections—even presidential elections—only during the last few weeks of a race. This is particularly true in elections where the gap between candidates narrows in the final weeks, increasing the drama surrounding election day.

In at least 25 states, inaccurate lists or purged lists prevented some eligible voters from casting ballots.

Problems at the Polls in Election 2000

In the aftermath of the 2000 election, election officials from numerous states reported that voters in their states were unable to vote because their names were not on voting lists when they arrived at polling places. According to an August 2001 congressional report that was based upon surveys of state officials, “Eligible voters in at least 25 states went to the polls and found their names were illegally purged from the rolls or not added in a timely fashion.”

Most of these problems were caused when new registrants who registered at state agencies through provisions mandated by the NVRA were not included in voting lists given to poll workers, even though these new registrations had been filed before statewide deadlines for registering. The FEC, in a July report to Congress, reported that the 2000 election produced a record number of complaints about the failure of new registrations to be added to voting rolls without delay, as mandated by the NVRA provisions. A 2001 Caltech/MIT report on voting technology estimates that between one and a half million and three million votes were lost or not cast in 2000 because of problems with the registration process and voting lists.

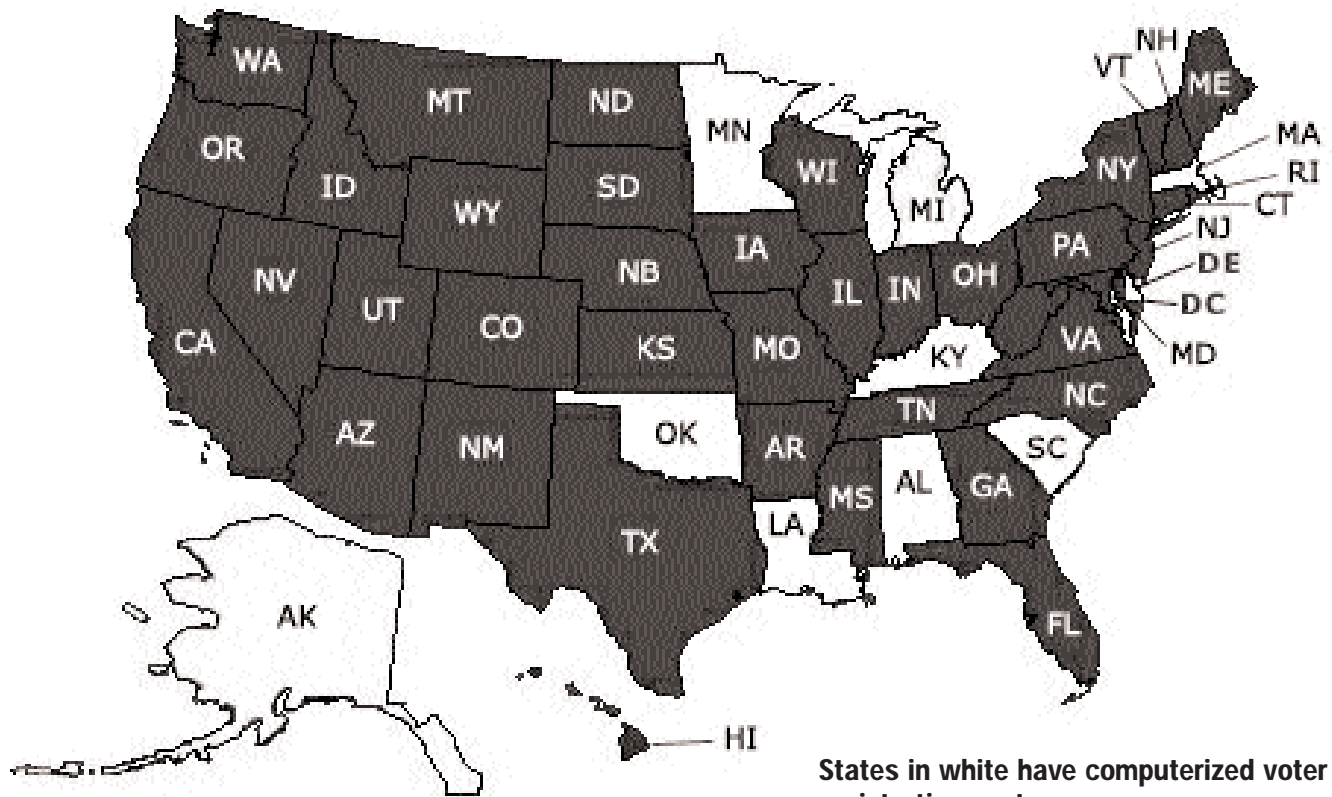
Computerized Registration Systems in Practice

Statewide voter registration systems vary widely. Currently, only 10 states have statewide registration systems that allow voter information to be automatically transferred online to a central statewide database and updated immediately, or in “real time,” via computer. These states are Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and

South Carolina. In addition, North Carolina has a system in which 63 of 100 counties participate. Some states have statewide voter registration systems that are not automated. In Missouri, New Mexico, and West Virginia, for example, counties send monthly updates to the Secretary of State. Beyond those states that already have statewide computerized lists, seven more states are in the process of putting such systems in place, including California and Connecticut. Three other states are close to adopting statewide systems. (See Appendix, page 15.)

Kentucky's centralized system, which serves 2.7 million registered voters, is considered among the best. From local terminals, county election officials access a statewide database located in the statehouse, and state election officials regularly update the database by comparing voter lists with lists of those deemed ineligible for reasons of death, mental incompetence, felony conviction, relocation, or voter inactivity. Local election officials can update records and receive confirmation from state officials within a day. Soon,

States With Online, Real-Time Computerized Voter Registration Systems



States in white have computerized voter registration systems.

States in black do not have computerized voter registration systems.

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures

they will be able to access the database at the precincts on election day via the Internet. Michigan also has an outstanding statewide system and is thus far the most populous state in the country to have created such a system. Covering more than 1,600 separate election jurisdictions, the Michigan system was authorized in 1994 state legislation but did not come online until 1998. State officials credit the system with streamlining the maintenance of voter lists, facilitating compliance with the NVRA, and resulting in cost savings at the local level.

The efficiency of these systems stands in stark contrast to Florida's current decentralized system, which aggravated many of the problems in the 2000 election. Voter registration records are maintained on 67 county databases around Florida, none of which is connected to the state's Central Voter File via the Internet or any private network. County election officials receive voter registration applications and register voters. Periodically, records are merged into the Central Voter File through a "batch" update, then checked by a private firm contracted to generate a list of ineligible voters. Legislation passed last year mandated that this inefficient system be replaced by a statewide system.

Computerized registration systems can facilitate election day registration by enabling local election officials to access statewide voter databases.

A Foundation for Reform Election Day Registration and Computerized Lists

On November 7, 2000, more than 80 million Americans eligible to cast a vote in the national election failed to do so. Roughly a third of voting-age Americans were not even registered to vote on election day. Along with many other flaws in our democratic system, the 2000 election illustrated the growing problem of low voter registration and participation. Election day voter registration is a critically needed reform to address this problem. Election day registration provides voters with the ability both to register and to vote at the polls on election day. While computerized systems have not been essential for implementing election day registration in those states that have it, such lists greatly facilitate election day registration.

Election day registration, also known as same-day registration, allows voters to register and vote on election day. Six states currently allow election day registration: Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. (North Dakota does not have a registration system at all.) The impact of election day registration on voter turnout may be considerable. All six states with EDR had voter turnout rates in the 1996 and 2000 elections of 10 percentage points higher than the national average. These states report few problems with fraud, administrative complexity, or excessive cost. Extending this reform nationwide will enable more citizens to become actively involved in the political process. One of the biggest advantages of election day voter registration is that people who become interested in the campaign close to election day can vote. EDR also helps ensure that all voters who arrive at the polls have an opportunity to vote, even if their names have accidentally been left off voting lists.

None of the states currently using EDR began with a computerized system, and only one of these states, Minnesota, currently has a real-time, online voter registration system. However, such systems can greatly facilitate the implementation of EDR and minimize the potential for voter fraud—the most common objection to EDR.

Statewide Lists and the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA)

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 has been an important factor in driving forward efforts to create better voter registration systems in the states. However, some of the NVRA's original goals in this regard remain unfulfilled—especially that of creating strong computerized links between election agencies and the different state agencies where Americans can register to vote.

The NVRA facilitates voter registration by allowing citizens to register to vote by mail as well as in person when they obtain a driver's license, apply for various social services, or enter the military. States may choose other state agencies to participate as well. A key aspect of the law is that states allow driver's license applicants to register to vote at motor vehicle agencies. The NVRA also set standards for purging ineligible voters from voting lists. It prohibits states from purging voters on the basis of inactivity alone or on the basis of relocation within the registrar's jurisdiction, but allows them to maintain a list of "inactive" registrants who, based on Postal Service information, are thought to have moved. The "inactive" registrants must be notified and then kept on voter rolls for two subsequent federal elections, unless they respond to the notification and confirm that they are ineligible.

The NVRA requires states to establish a program for ensuring the accuracy of their voter registration lists, but allows them discretion in the methods used. States are permitted use of the Postal Service's National Change of Address files. The NVRA does not require that voters' changes to their addresses on their driver's licenses automatically register them to vote in their new district, nor does it require that Departments of Motor Vehicles forward voter registration applications to election officials in the driver's new district. Although federal law does not require that lists be computerized, a well-designed statewide database is the best way to ensure the accuracy and integrity of voter registration lists. The Federal Election Commission has repeatedly urged states to establish centralized and computerized voter registration systems.

In its most recent report to Congress on the NVRA, in June 2001, the FEC recommended that "all States computerize their voter registration files both locally and statewide and further, that these computerized voter registration systems be linked where feasible with the collateral public agencies that are appropriate under the NVRA." The FEC's report argued that statewide computerized registration records play a critically important role in helping advance the goals of the NVRA. The reasons such centralized lists are so important include:

- Ensuring that public agencies that take in new registration applications can instantly transfer this information to election officials. During the 2000 election many states reported to the FEC that there were numerous problems with voters not being on voting lists at polls, even though they had registered at the DMV or other public agencies in time to qualify to vote.

Computerized registration records play a critically important role in helping advance the goals of the NVRA.

- Assisting states with the list maintenance provisions of the NVRA by facilitating the removal of names from the voter lists, decreasing the costs of verifying names on the lists, and helping states more effectively interface with U.S. postal records regarding change of address.
- Generating the data that the FEC requires from the states under the NVRA rules, thus easing the data collection burden on local registrars.

Computerizing the Lists: Challenges and Costs

Despite the benefits of computerized voter registration lists, there are several obstacles that merit mention. One is the administrative burden of centralizing information from a variety of public offices. Another is concern for voter privacy. It is difficult to maintain accurate voter records without the use of a unique identifier for each voter, such as a driver's license number, a Social Security Number, or a fingerprint. Half of states request such identification, but only 14 require it. All but eight states prohibit requiring the use of Social Security Numbers for voter registration purposes. Some, such as Michigan, use driver's license numbers.

The greatest obstacle states face in developing computerized lists is cost. The cost of a system can vary greatly, depending on how sophisticated and adaptable it needs to be; the degree to which election offices are already

Cost can range from \$1 million to \$10 million to implement and operate a statewide system in its first year; full implementation can take several years.

Recent Calls for Reform

National Conference of State Legislatures, August 2001

“States should develop a statewide, electronic registration database.... Registration databases should be easily accessible from all polling places.... States should improve communication between polling places and central election offices.”

National Commission on Federal Election Reform, July 2001

“Every state should adopt a system of statewide voter registration.... The statewide computerized voter file should be networked with and accessible to every election jurisdiction in the state so that any level can initiate registrations and updates with prompt notification to the others.”

Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project, July 2001

“Computerize voter registration information and processes at both the state and local levels.... Make the county's or state's registration database accessible at each polling place.”

Federal Election Commission, June 2001

“The Federal Election Commission recommends that all States computerize their voter registration files both locally and statewide and further, that these computerized voter registration systems be linked where feasible with the collateral public agencies that are appropriate under the NVRA.”

National Commission on Election Standards and Reforms, May 2001

“States should provide for the accumulation of statewide voter registration records that are updated on a regular basis and make such records readily accessible to local election officials.”

computerized (many jurisdictions update records manually); and the extent to which computerized jurisdictions' systems are compatible. Cost can range from \$1 million to \$10 million to implement and operate a statewide system in its first year; full implementation can take several years, depending on the type of system used and the extent of the changes that are necessary. Additional expenses are incurred to maintain and upgrade the system.

The cost of updating Colorado's computerized voter registration records to network an additional 21 of the state's 63 counties via the Internet is estimated to be \$1.16 million over the next two years. For the creation of Florida's statewide online voter registration database, mandated by the Florida Election Reform Act of 2001, the legislature committed \$2 million (the Governor's task force had recommended \$3 million). Michigan appropriated \$7.6 million for the design, development, and implementation of its Qualified Voter File (QVF) program, which links the state's voter registration and driver's license records and gives election officials access to a statewide automated and integrated voter registration database. The state appropriated \$1.4 million annually for QVF's maintenance.

Given the investments of time and money, the fact that most of the cost is near-term while the benefit is long-term, and the tradition of local control over voter registration policies, resistance to statewide voter registration databases is no surprise. Once established, however, such systems free up resources spent on voter registration functions, the most costly part of election administration.

Some states may find it more feasible to implement a system over an extended period. California's CALVOTER system was developed in stages, and is still in the process of being implemented. California took the approach of integrating its various county systems to enable counties to communicate with the state electronically via an application programming interface. In 1993, when Congress passed the National Voter Registration Act, California did not have a statewide system. To check for duplicate registrations, county election officials periodically supplied voter registration tapes that were read on the state data center's mainframe system. The state feared that the multiple registration sites mandated by the NVRA would increase the number of duplicate registrations and increase costs to states and localities. In 1995, the state legislature passed a bill mandating the creation of a statewide voter registration database and election management system, CALVOTER. (*See box on next page.*)

Since the 2000 election, a number of other states have moved to establish computerized voter registration lists and improve list maintenance.

CALVOTER

California's Voter Registration System

In 1995, California Secretary of State Bill Jones convened an elections summit that revealed the chaos surrounding the state's voter registration system. Each of California's 58 counties had individual responsibility for registration data, but no mechanism existed to enable the counties to cross-check information with each other. One result of this outmoded system was that the voter lists were full of "dead wood"—the names of people who had moved from the district or died remained on the rolls. CALVOTER, a project that grew out of this summit, was designed to rectify this problem. It is an initiative to establish a statewide, computerized voter registration list. The initial stages of the project were financed through a \$3.5 million loan from the legislature. Planners anticipated that the loan would ultimately be repaid from the savings generated by removing dead wood from the voter rolls. Provisional estimates suggested that by the mid-1990s approximately 15% of California's voter records were out of date. Eliminating these registrations would save the state \$1.5 million per election mailing.

CALVOTER operates as a mechanism to link individual counties with the state database, which is located in Sacramento. The counties enter registration changes into computer files and then send this information to the state database. To cross-check registrants, the database primarily uses driver's license numbers, but it also employs records from other sources, including department of health records and national change-of-address forms. If the database reveals duplicate or potentially invalid registrations, then the counties are alerted and can choose whether to accept or reject the changes. In this way, all counties retain ultimate control over their voter registration lists.

CALVOTER has been instituted gradually, and has only recently begun to be fully functional throughout the state. The first stage of CALVOTER was the Secretary of State Wide Area Network (SOSWAN), which enabled county election officials to view CALVOTER databases and transmit information via workstations. The state supplied each county with a workstation and printer. When this system began operating in 1998, only 20 counties were online. Los Angeles, which accounts for one quarter of voter registrations in the state of California, did not participate until the end of 1999. The last county came on board in March 2000. To date, CALVOTER has resulted in the removal of more than 814,731 duplicate registrations from the voter rolls, with 446,800 of these occurring since January 2001. Many more corrections have been made to the voter rolls. State officials emphasize that CALVOTER is "a tool the counties find valuable."

CALVOTER is not without its problems, however. California state law prohibits the use of Social Security Numbers as identifiers for voter registration. Because most other records, including banking, tax, credit, and employment data, are linked to a person's Social Security Number, CALVOTER is forced to rely upon multiple, less reliable sources of personal information to keep voter lists accurate.

Another difficulty with CALVOTER is a more systemic one. CALVOTER is not a so-called real-time system of computerized voter registration. Instead, the system is updated once a week. Updates for Los Angeles county alone take two days to complete. Because the CALVOTER system does not enable county clerks to access and immediately update voter records, it has limited utility—for instance, it cannot be effectively used in conjunction with election day voter registration.

Despite these difficulties, CALVOTER is a significant attempt to improve the quality of voter registration lists. This is a particularly daunting challenge in California, a state with an electorate of 15.1 million, and where the computerization of voting rolls poses many logistical challenges.

Recent State Actions and Proposals

Computerized statewide registration systems have long been championed by electoral reformers at both the federal and state level. Calls for new investments in statewide list systems since the 2000 election have been made by both non-partisan and bipartisan groups and agencies, nationally and at the state level.

In its June 2001 report to Congress, in which it reported on the impact of the NVRA, the FEC recommended that states develop and implement statewide voter registration systems that are effectively linked with computerized systems of the public agencies relevant to the NVRA. In July 2001, the National Commission on Federal Election Reform, chaired by former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, also recommended statewide computerized systems. The Caltech/MIT Voting Technology Project likewise put forth this recommendation in its July report, *Voting: What Is, What Could Be*. A number of commissions set up in different states also called for statewide computerized registration systems in the wake of the 2000 election.

These reform calls have been reflected in a variety of state election reform bills that have been proposed since the 2000 election. While federal assistance would be critically helpful for advancing these reforms—and may well be forthcoming as a result of 2002 legislation—ultimate responsibility for developing computerized systems rests with the states. However, across the United States progress in this area is proceeding at very different paces—or not at all. A worsening economy and the September 11 terrorist attacks have hampered some efforts to create computerized statewide lists.

In Florida, Governor Jeb Bush established the Select Task Force on Election Reform after the 2000 election to study election procedures and technology, and propose improvements to Florida's electoral system. The Task Force published its findings and recommendations in a report on March 1, 2001. On May 4, the Florida legislature passed the Florida Election Reform Act of 2001; the Governor signed the act into law on May 9. Among other things, the law requires the creation of a statewide online voter registration database that is to be operational by June 1, 2002.

Since the 2000 election, a number of other states have moved to establish computerized voter registration lists and improve list maintenance.

- Colorado passed a bill (HB 1307) to update its system so that voter information entered at the county level is automatically transferred to a statewide database. The system would also improve counties' access to voter registration records.
- Indiana passed HB 1510 to provide for a statewide voter registration database accessible via the Internet.
- South Dakota passed HB 1252 to establish a statewide database and HB 1009 to keep the information up to date.

New statewide systems should include the cost of leasing computers that can be placed in all polling places on election day.

- Texas passed HB 2691 to speed the voter registration process by requiring that registration applications be sent from driver's license offices electronically. The legislature also passed HB 3181 to improve voter registration list maintenance.
- Pennsylvania passed SB 107, which included \$8.5 million to develop a statewide voter registration system that will electronically link all county voter registration systems into one database.

The months ahead will reveal the degree to which these states make good on their intentions and move forward with plans for new registration systems in a worsening economy. Meanwhile, in other states, legislation to facilitate the creation of statewide registration lists has been put forth but has failed. Failed legislation in 2001 included:

- In Connecticut, HB 5123, a proposal to facilitate the completion and maintenance of a statewide centralized voter registration system.
- In Maine, LD 1686, a proposal to require the Secretary of State to maintain a central voting list for the state and to update the list at least once a year by requesting the voting list from the registrar of every municipality in the state.
- In Washington, HB 1414, a proposal to establish a centralized statewide voter registration database.

In addition to legislation that passed or failed in the above states during the first part of 2001, legislation aimed at establishing or strengthening statewide systems is currently pending in New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin.

One major setback in the creation of better statewide lists recently occurred in Oregon, where in early September the legislature decided to withhold \$2 million it had set aside for a new centralized voter registration system. This decision came after state economists lowered revenue estimates by some \$300 million for the 2001–2003 budget period due to the worsening economy. According to Oregon Secretary of State Bill Bradbury, the decision means that Oregon will not have a centralized system in place by the 2004 election.

Recommendations

Federal Actions

- Congress should move quickly to make available major new funding for improving election systems in the states. Funds appropriated should be adequate to ensure that all states receive the assistance they need to create statewide computerized systems.
- The Federal Election Commission should play an active role in tracking state efforts to computerize their voting lists; analyzing the challenges of this process; and disseminating information widely about best practices in this area. The FEC should continue its work in collecting information about how the presence or absence of well-designed and maintained statewide registration systems affects the implementation of the NVRA.
- The FEC should take the lead role in ensuring that new statewide computerized systems are maximally compatible with each other. The FEC should investigate what is required to implement a nationally coordinated system of voter registration that will easily allow people who move to remain registered.

State Actions

- Each state that does not have a computerized statewide system should move to create such a system. These efforts should not be contingent on federal assistance and should not be set aside because of fiscal pressures related to the current economic downturn.
- New statewide systems should be designed to link together election agencies with those agencies relevant to the NVRA, thus allowing new registrations under the NVRA to be including in voting lists without delay.
- New statewide systems should be designed to allow poll workers to facilitate election day registration as well as to resolve problems with voter lists at polling places. Funding for new statewide systems should include the cost of leasing computers that can be placed in all polling places on election day, as well as the cost of training poll workers in their use. Funding should also include the costs of training workers in agencies implementing the NVRA so that links between these agencies and election agencies will function smoothly.
- States should involve all relevant parties in reform efforts. Election officials, in particular, should be involved in all aspects of planning and implementation. Most states that have computerized systems used advisory panels comprised of local election officials.

- States should set a realistic timetable for implementation. The development of new statewide computerized systems is likely to take between two and four years. Each state should test its system at each stage of design, programming, and implementation and, if possible, contract one vendor to do the work and another to monitor it and serve as a technical consultant. States should establish a statewide monitoring system to ensure quality control. States should avoid testing new systems during major elections.
- States should standardize the way information is recorded. Complete and accurate data precludes the need for broad matching criteria when purging lists. States should establish a standard for voter identification using a unique identifier such as name, address, and the last four digits of the voter's Social Security Number.
- States should protect voters against erroneous purges. States should establish a high standard for matching criteria and notify voters slated for removal.
- States should allow potential voters to access their registration information via telephone or computer to verify their eligibility prior to an election.
- To the extent possible, all states that install new systems should ensure intrastate and interstate compatibility. Given interstate mobility, list-maintenance safeguards should transcend state boundaries.

APPENDIX: Statewide Voter Registration Systems*

State	Statewide voter registration system?
Alabama	Yes. Online, real-time system.
Alaska	Yes. Online, real-time system.
Arizona	No.
Arkansas	No.
California	No.
Colorado	Yes. 2001 legislation updates to computerized, real-time system.
Connecticut	Yes. 140 of 169 towns are online.
Delaware	Yes. Online, real-time system.
District of Columbia	No.
Florida	No. 2001 legislation requires the development of a central system.
Georgia	Yes. Mainframe.
Hawaii	Yes. System is not state-run; instead, it is operated by the City and County of Honolulu, which collects the information statewide. The Chief Election Officer is responsible for maintaining data on registered voters.
Idaho	No.
Illinois	No.
Indiana	Yes. 2001 legislation requires online, real-time updates via the Internet.
Iowa	Yes.
Kansas	Yes. Not integrated or automated.
Kentucky	Yes. Online, real-time system.
Louisiana	Yes. Online, real-time system.
Maine	No.
Maryland	No.
Massachusetts	Yes. Online, real-time system. Information is gathered and input by cities and townships.
Michigan	Yes. Online, real-time system.
Minnesota	Yes. Online, real-time system.
Mississippi	No.
Missouri	Yes. Counties send monthly updates to Secretary of State.
Montana	No.
Nebraska	Yes.
Nevada	No.

(continued on next page)

* Table is reproduced from *Voting in America: Final Report of the NCSL Elections Task Force*, National Conference of State Legislatures, August 2001.

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Resources

**Constitution Project
Election Reform Initiative**

<http://www.constitutionproject.org/eri/index.htm>

Council of State Governments (CSG)

<http://www.csg.org>

***Demos*: A Network for Ideas and Action**

<http://www.demos-usa.org>

Election Center

<http://www.electioncenter.org>

Federal Election Commission (FEC)

<http://www.fec.gov>

**International Association of Clerks, Recorders,
Election Officials, and Treasurers**

<http://www.iacreot.com>

International Foundation for Election Systems

<http://www.ifes.org>

League of Women Voters

<http://www.lwv.org>

National Association of Counties

<http://www.naco.org>

National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials, and Clerks

<http://www.nacrc.org>

National Association of Secretaries of State

<http://nass.stateofthevote.org>

National Association of State Election Directors (NASED)

<http://www.nased.org>

National Commission on Federal Election Reform

<http://www.reformelections.org>

**National Conference of State Legislatures
Special Task Force on Elections Reform**

<http://www.ncsl.org/statefed/ElecRef.htm>

National Governors Association

<http://www.nga.org>

Voting Integrity Project

<http://www.voting-integrity.org>