

Update to Help America Vote Act: Wyoming's State Plan Submitted December 2013



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This update to Wyoming's Help America Vote Act (HAVA) plan follows the original plan written September 2003 and the previous updates written August 2004, January 2005, September 2005, October 2007, June 2008, Dec 2009 and March 2011. There were also reports to the U.S. Department of Justice on August 7, 2006 and May 29, 2007 providing updates about Wyoming's efforts and accomplishments toward full HAVA compliance. The original plan, subsequent updates, and information provided to the Department of Justice are posted on the Secretary of State's website at <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/HAVA.aspx>. All required aspects of HAVA have been completed and all statewide elections are conducted in accordance with HAVA.

Voting Systems:

As previously reported, Wyoming met the standards set forth in Section 301 prior to January 1, 2006. Originally twenty counties chose Election Systems & Software (ES&S) and three counties chose Diebold Inc. which was later named Premier and then was finally purchased & acquired by ES&S. Since then, three counties began Hardware & Software Maintenance agreements in 2010 with Dominion Voting Systems (DVS). For the 2012 Election Cycle, one county used DRE's exclusively in all of their polling places for each of their precincts. The original contracts are posted on the Secretary of State website at <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Elections/HAVA.aspx>

Computerized Statewide Voter Registration List:

As reported previously, in August 2006, Wyoming provided the Department of Justice with both a short term and long term plan toward full HAVA compliance of a statewide voter registration system. The short term plan was implemented for the 2006 federal elections. The long term plan provided for selection of a vendor to implement a fully HAVA compliant voter registration system by December 2007.

Saber Corp was selected and began implementation of a system in April 2007. A fully compliant system was implemented by December 2007. The system has been used for three complete election cycles, 2008, 2010 & 2012. Saber Corp was eventually bought out by EDS, an HP company, and then became acquired solely by Hewlett Packard. In March of 2011 Wyoming's voter registration system hosting and application support was transferred to Arikkan, Inc. Arikkan is presently hosting and providing application support for Wyoming's statewide voter registration system.

The Wyoming voter registration system has been improved since the last time we reported. The majority of improvements have been made to enhance the overall flow of the application particularly dealing with election day registrations and the voter purge process. We have made several modifications to reports specifically dealing with absentee information.

Voter Education, Election Official Training and Poll Worker Training:

There are many types of training to be conducted to meet HAVA requirements. The Secretary of State's office conducted two weeks of training on the statewide voter registration system in October of 2011 in preparation for the 2012 election. The Secretary of State's office is also planning training on the statewide voter registration system in March 2014 in preparation for the 2014 election cycle.

Requirements Payments and Fund Management:

Wyoming was a "minimum funded" state under HAVA and therefore was scheduled to receive \$20 million in federal Title I and Title II funds. Wyoming remains at receipt of slightly over \$18 million. The State of Wyoming appropriated the full state match of \$750,000 in anticipation of receipt of the Title II federal dollars. To date, approximately \$ 712,000 has been used to match the federal funds received.

Performance Goals and Measures:

Wyoming's performance goals and measures were listed in the original state plan. Of those original seven goals, the state has met all of the original goals. The goals, as originally established, are listed below.

- Implement state based complaint procedure which meets the requirements of HAVA not later than September 2003
- Implement provisional voting which meets the requirements of HAVA not later than January 1, 2004.
- Implement voting information at polling places not later than January 1, 2004.
- Replace punch card/lever machines not later than January 1, 2006.
- Replace all central count voting equipment (except for the counting of absentee ballots) not later than January 1, 2006.
- Provide 1 DRE (touch screen) voting machine for every polling place not later than January 1, 2006. [All polling places will have accessible equipment, either a DRE or AutoMark (touch screen) machine.]
- Establish a computerized statewide voter registration system that meets the requirements of HAVA not later than January 1, 2006. (After termination of the original voter registration contract, this goal was met December 2007.)

State Plan Management:

As stated in the original plan, the Secretary of State is responsible for the ongoing management of Wyoming's HAVA plan. However, the Secretary anticipated continued input from County Clerks and many other groups and interested parties. This indeed has continued to be the case. Since Wyoming last reported, county clerks and their staff have continued to be integrally involved in monitoring the design, development, deployment and testing of the statewide voter registration system.

As was anticipated and stated in the original plan, and is still true today, "Implementation of such an enormous project will evolve over time; we must address the far-reaching ramifications detail-by-detail, and decision-by-decision."