ELECTION OFFICIAL NEWS

Military and Overseas Voting

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

JUNE 2008

Recent State Updates

The FVAP continues to work with state officials to enact legislation and make changes to enable military members, their families, and overseas citizens to vote absentee effectively and easily. We would like to share with you the recent strides that have been made by states and territories, by enacting new legislation and reviewing existing laws and procedures, in assisting military and overseas absentee voters.

- American Samoa now permits use of the online Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form (FPCA, SF 76).
- Kansas now permits emailing of blank and voted ballots.
- Illinois now permits use of the back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) in all primary, special, and general for all Federal, state, and local offices.
- Minnesota now permits emailing of the Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form (FPCA, SF 76) for ballot request and emailing of blank ballots; permits use of the State Write-In Absentee Ballot for state and local elections; no longer has any witness or notary requirements for voting materials to or from military and overseas

- Missouri now permits emailing the Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form (FPCA, SF 76) for absentee ballot request.
- Montana now permits use of the back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF186) in all primary, special, and general elections for all Federal, state, and local offices. More counties are also establishing facilities for voting via fax and email.
- New Mexico now permits emailing of Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form (FPCA, SF 76) and ballots; now permits use of the Back-Up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) in any election; and permits the FWAB to be used as an application for registration
- Oregon now permits the use of the back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) in all general, special, and primary elections for Federal Office and permits use of the FWAB as simultaneous registration and absentee ballot request.
- Pennsylvania now permits emailing of blank ballot for military members only and officially permits EXPRESS mailing of voted ballots by all UOCAVA citizens.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Recent Updates in State UOCAVA Procedures
- How to Use ETS



Visit Our Website!

Have you checked out the local election official section on our website? Go to www.fvap.gov and select "Resources for Election Officials." See how much useful information is available for you!

State Updates (cont.)

- South Carolina now permits expanded use of the back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) for general, primary, and special elections for Federal, state, and local offices and permits use of FWAB as registration and/or absentee ballot request form.
- Vermont no longer has notary requirements. Vermont also now permits use of the back—up Federal Write In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) as an application for registration and permits online registration for citizens with valid driver's license or State ID.
- Virginia now permits all overseas citizens to receive the blank ballot by email or fax.
- Washington permits use of the back-up Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) in any election (primary, special & general) as an application for registration and permits online registration for citizens with valid driver's license or State ID.
- West Virginia permits emailing and faxing of the Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request Form (FPCA, SF 76), blank ballot, and voted ballot.

How to Use Our Electronic Transmission Service

The Federal Voting Assistance Program's Electronic Transmission Service, ETS, enables local election officials to transmit and receive election materials via fax or email to and from Uniformed Services members, their family members, and all overseas citizens at no cost to you.

Check out the recently updated ETS instruction manual on our website! It is available in both Adobe Acrobat and Rich-Text formats at http://www.fvap.gov/leo/etsinstructionsforleo.pdf and http://www.fvap.gov/leo/etsinstructionsforleo.rtf. Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

FVAP Contact Information

Email: vote@fvap.ncr.gov

Toll free number: 1-800–438-VOTE (8683)

Fax: 703-696-1352 **Website:** <u>www.fvap.gov</u>

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense

1777 N. Kent St., Suite 14003 Arlington, VA 22209-1262