THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES
Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine

Division on Engineering and Physical Science
Computer Science and Telecommunications Board

State Voter Registration Databases

Workshop III

Benson Hotel
309 Southwest Broadway
Portland, Oregon 97205

May 7-8, 2008

Final Agenda

This workshop (the third in a series of eight) is designed to provide state and local election officials with an opportunity for interactive dialogue, regarding current implementation and future directions for HAVA-mandated state-wide voter registration databases, with the National Academies' Committee on State Voter Registration Databases.

The sessions will focus on broader policy issues and technical implementation decisions and will address both current and medium-term issues and challenges as well as potential longer-term changes to and options for voter registration and state voter registration databases.

In advance of the workshop, participants were asked to submit topics that are of particular concern or interest to them. These ideas have been incorporated into the workshop discussions and the agenda has been revised, accordingly.

<u>**Wednesday, May 7, 2008**</u>

OPEN SESSION

Parliament Room

8:30 – 8:40 a.m.	**Welcome and Overview** *Olene Walker and Fran Ulmer, Committee and Workshop Co-chairs*
8:40 – 9:40	**Overview and Demo -- Oregon State Voter Registration Database System** *John Lindback, Dave Franks, and Ericka Hass, Oregon Secretary of State's Office*
9:40 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 12:15 p.m.	**Roundtable Session I – State Voter Registration Databases: Lessons Learned** *Discussion Facilitator: Olene Walker*

- Reactions to study committee's interim report, *State Voter Registration Databases: Immediate Actions and Future Improvement*

- How has your state addressed implementation or operational challenges at either the state or local level?
- What is your state's experience with matching against DMV, SSA, or other state agency data sources? What is the status of any inter-state matching efforts, if any?
- What has been working well and what requires more attention?

Roundtable participants for all three sessions are listed on page 3.

Format:
Short overview of interim report – *Olene Walker* (10-15 min.)

General discussion (105 min.)

Recap highlights – *Fran Ulmer* (15 min.)

12:15 – 1:15	Lunch Available Continue discussion from morning sessions and prepare for afternoon panels.
1:15 – 3:15	**Roundtable Session II** – **State Voter Registration Databases: Medium-term Improvements (1-5 years)** *Discussion Facilitator: Bruce McPherson*

- What are possible areas or potential solutions to improve voter registration and/or state voter registration databases in the medium term?
- How useful would any of the following proposed solutions be, including
  - The use of the tear-off receipts for voter registration?
  - The creation of a software repository to do better matching so states do not have to implement it themselves?
- How can we accommodate the need for a signature during electronic transfers?
- How can we get a better handle on the estimated costs on implementing the medium/long-term recommendations?

Format:
Introduction and brief overview – *Bruce McPherson* (10-15 min.)

General discussion (90 min.)

Recap highlights – *Jeff Jonas* (15 min.)

3:15 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 5:30	**Roundtable Session III** – **State Voter Registration Databases: Long-term Improvements (5+ years)** *Discussion Facilitator: Fran Ulmer*

- What 'big picture' system changes could be considered by regions or the federal government to provide easier exchange and sharing of databases?

- What methods would make it easier for a highly mobile voting population to vote (without having multiple jurisdiction registration processes limit that right)?
- What options and possibilities are available for automatic voter registration?
- What are the benefits/drawbacks of moving to same day voter registration?
- Are there possible legislative changes that should be considered?

Format:
Introduction and brief overview – *Fran Ulmer* (10-15 min.)

General discussion (90 min.)

Recap highlights – *Gary Cox* (15 min.)

Roundtable Participants:

Gail Fenumiai, Director, Division of Elections, Alaska
Barbara Gruenstein, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska
Lee Kercher, IT Division Chief, Secretary of State, California
Dean Logan, Acting Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, California
Bruce McDannold, Elections Division Lead, Secretary of State, California
Nancy Blankenship, County Clerk, Deschutes County, Oregon
Annette Newingham, Supervisor of Elections, Lane County, Oregon
Thad Duvall, Douglas County Auditor and President of Washington State Association of County Auditors
Peggy Nighswonger, Director of Elections, Wyoming
Lynne Fox, Uinta County Clerk, Wyoming

5:30   Adjourn Public Workshop

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Parliament Room

OPEN SESSION

9:00 – 9:05 a.m.   **Welcome and Overview**
Olene Walker and Fran Ulmer, Committee and Workshop Co-chairs

9:05 – 9:30   **Panel Discussion: Security Issues**
Discussion Facilitator: Rebecca Wright

- Describe the process of determining the risk assessment and the security model for a state and discuss how the security model was implemented.
- For centralized state voter registration systems, including the voter registration database and any additional election management functions, 1) what different types of functionality are states adding and deploying with their voter registration systems (e.g. online registration)? 2) what

minimum levels of security would you expect a state to have for the different functionalities?

- What are some time-tested and valid ways to test your security without causing too much disruption?
- How much redundancy/back-up should be built into a system of this size and importance in order to accommodate security and reliability concerns?
- What kinds of security advice can we give that will apply to a broad range of potential statewide voter registration systems and will continue to hold for at least the next five years?
- Is there anything about security that is unique or specific to voter registration databases, as opposed to other domains? Or, alternately, are there other well-studied domains that have the same or very similar security issues as statewide voter registration systems.

Participant: Randy Cobena, Vice President, Government Solutions, Saber

Q&A

9:30 – 10:30	**Interactive Discussion on Security for Voter Registration Databases**
	Panelists: Paula Hawthorn, Rebecca Wright, and John Lindback
10:30	Adjourn Public Workshop