Why Not Vote in Your Bath Robe?
Remote Accessible Vote By Mail

Empowering Voters to Vote Remotely, Independently, and in Private

John Schmitt
What We’re Talking About ...
HAVA 2002 -> 49 States

- Law required states to provide:
  - Physically accessible polling place
  - At least one accessible system per polling place
  - Voters had to be able to vote:
    - Independently
    - In private
HAVA 2002 -> Oregon = VBM

- Law required Oregon’s 36 county offices to:
  - Polling place had to be accessible
  - Needed one accessible system (PC) per polling place
  - Voters had be able to vote:
    - Independently
    - In private
  - Created AFB to augment existing VBM system
What's an Alternate Format Ballot?

Diagram showing the process:
1. Server
2. HTML
3. Computer
4. Printer
5. Mailbox
6. Envelope
7. Child with ballot

October 23, 2017
Generating HTML Ballots

• Ballots Generated from:
  • EMS exported CSV Ballot Definition files
  • County’s XLF translation files

• Multiple Ballot Styles (no limit)

• Multiple parties (no limit)

• Multiple Languages (currently 10)
Delivered to Voter’s Home
What Comes in the Mail?
Summary Returned by Mail
How Do I Get My HTML Ballot?
How Do I Get My HTML Ballot?

http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/pages/ballots/11072017/Washington/34_AFB_371-1.html
Let’s Mark a Ballot!!!

Official Special Election Ballot - Alfalfa County, Oregon
11/02/2018 - 99-D
(For demonstration purposes, not an official ballot)

Only for use by Military, Overseas and Disabled Voters

Instructions to Voter
To vote, select the box next to your choice. For write-in candidates, select the box next to write-in and then type the person’s first and last name in the text box.

Attention:
Remember to check your ballot for mistakes! If you have any questions, please call your County Elections Office - (555) 555-5555.

Warning:
Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting is subject to a fine. (Oregon Revised Statutes 254.470)

View one race at a time

Oregon Football Country: PAC 12 Champions, 1 Year Term (Vote for One)

☐ Beavers (Orange and Black)
☐ Ducks (Green and Yellow)
☐ or write-in: If selected, enter the write-in candidate’s name: _______________________

Check this race for voting mistakes

Favorite Treats: Ice Cream, 2 Year Term (Vote for One)

☐ Strawberry Swirl
☐ Chocolate
☐ Vanilla
☐ or write-in: If selected, enter the write-in candidate’s name: _______________________

Check this race for voting mistakes
Try It Yourself

www.tryvoting.org
Bi-model Access Allows AT
Summary of Votes:

Oregon Football Category: PAC 12 Champions, 4 Year Term (Vote for One).

You voted for: Ducks (Green and Yellow)

Favorite Treats: Ice Cream, 2 Year Term (Vote for One).

You wrote in: Rocky Road

Favorite Foods: Pizza Dilligs, 3 Year Term (Vote for Two).

You voted for: Pepperoni
You voted for: Black Olive

College Football: Ballot Measure 98.61 - To Move the Start Times of all Duck and Beaver Football Games to 8:00 PM.

You voted: Yes

End of Summary Page
Blind Voters Can Verify Votes
Ballot on Demand Integration

- Supported by ES&S and Runbeck BOD’s
- Prints scan-able ballot with voter’s choices
- Unique, random number prevents duplicate scanning.
Summary Returned by Mail
RAVBM Security

- CSV/XLF File transfers to/from Five Cedars use Citrix ShareFile for secure transfer
- Server security is responsibility of County
- Marked Ballot integrity comes down to voter review of the paper Summary
- **Bottom Line:**
  
  Election integrity same as for any VBM voter
Signatures are Verified
AFB’s Used by Oregon Military
Voters Used AFB’s during Sandy
Summary

• HTML Ballots work within an existing vote-by-mail or absentee system
• Voters use their own PC’s, iPads, etc.
• Voters use their own accessibility tools
• Voters vote in familiar environment - home
October 11, 2017

Mr. John Schmitt
Five Cedars Group, Inc.
1500 NW Bethany Blvd, Suite 200
Beaverton, OR 97006

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

Pursuant to California Elections Code section 19281, the California Secretary of State’s Office of Voting Systems Technology Assessment performed an examination and review of the Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) V 4.3 remote accessible vote by mail system, which is comprised of the following:

- Alternate Format Ballot Generator V 1.5
- Accessible HTML Alternate Format Ballots V 4.3

Based on the results of the examination and review, the California Secretary of State has conditionally approved the Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) V 4.3 remote accessible vote by mail system for use in California. The conditional approval is subject to the terms in the attached certification document.

Additionally, Alternate Format Ballot (AFB) V 4.3 is subject to California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Chapter 6 Eserow of Source Codes. Compliance is mandatory prior to use in any California Election.

Sincerely,

Susan Lapsley
Deputy Secretary of State and Counsel
California Secretary of State
Why Not Vote in Your Bath Robe?
Contact Info

John Schmitt

John.Schmitt@FiveCedarsGroup.com

503-536-1280