

**National Committee for
Voting Integrity**

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Election System Reform Recommendations
November 3, 2004**

Securing Voting Technology from Manipulation

- 1) The Help America Vote Act:
 - a) Extend time for jurisdictions to make purchasing decisions on voting equipment
 - b) Provide \$10 Million for each year 2003-2005 for the EAC
 - c) Provide designated appropriations for NIST's work on E-voting Standards
 - d) Fund \$20 million for Grants and Research on Voting Technology Improvements
 - e) Fund \$10 million 2003 Pilot Program for Testing E-voting Technology

- 2) Develop National E-Voting Standards and Security Protocols
 - a) Certification of federal approved and supported labs to vet e-voting technology
 - b) Voter Verifiable Audit Trail
 - c) Registration of all voting software, and firmware in NIST's reference library
 - d) Sever the connection between vendors and election administration
 - e) Increase the pool of Election Day workers
 - f) Establish a national mandatory system of reporting problems with voting technology

- 3) Require Background Checks of Key Voting Technology Vendor Staff
 - a) Security Clearance for development and technical staff
 - b) Certification and training of support and technical staff
 - c) Training programs for clients to foster independence from the vendor for routine maintenance and upgrades
 - d) Severing support functions from contracting agreements that vendors offer public election voting technology clients.

Establish Integrity in the Administration of Elections

- 1) Education
 - a. Create a Certification and Accreditation Process for Local Election Administrators that include conducting Logic and Accuracy Test and evaluation of election system for human factors
 - b. Masters Degree and Professional Boards for State Election Administration and Key Staff

- 2) Restrict Partisan Political Activity of Election Administrators
 - a. Oath of Office to conduct fair and impartial elections
 - b. Baring the acceptance of gifts or gratuities from vendors

- c. Registration of all vendors as lobbyist and annual reports of contacts as public record.
 - d. Transparency in voting equipment purchase decisions and contracting
- 3) Transparency
- a. Open the election system process to public view from testing to tabulation of results.
 - b. Public access to operations manuals and pre-testing and certification of voting equipment.
 - c. Open observation of testing, preparation and tabulation to directly viewing screens and processes.
 - d. Access to all log files and internal operations of e-voting technology

Safeguard Voter Privacy

- 1) Reform Voter Registration Rules:
- a) Create uniform voter registration rules
 - b) Implement uniform privacy protection for registered voters with strict opt-in rules for the sharing of a limited amount of information on voter registration with third parties.
 - c) Block the use of centralized voter registration databases until sufficient security measures are in place to protect the privacy of registered voters.
 - d) Prevent an expansion in ID requirements for voter registration and voting
- 2) Secure the Secrecy of Domestic and Overseas Ballots
- a) Remove the responsibility for conducting uniform voting for military and civilians living abroad from the
 - b) Create a process that is streamline and efficient for equal access to voting that is on a par with domestic voters.
 - c) Reform absentee ballot rules to create greater secrecy of ballots cast.

Guarantee Equal Voting Rights in Federal Elections

- 1) Uniform access to early voting, Election Day voting, and provisional ballots
- a) Establish national standards for polling locations and methods of changing locations
 - c) Define rules for the appropriate use and counting of provisional ballots
 - d) Ensure Early voting in all Federal elections