

State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

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JUDGE GORDON MYSE
Chairperson

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

August 2, 2010

Dr. Clifford L. Stanley, Presidential Designee for UOCAVA
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel Readiness
United States Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
2162 Washington, DC 20301-1400

Bob Carey, Director
Federal Voting Assistance Program
1777 North Kent Street, Suite #14003
Arlington, VA 22209-

Dear Dr. Stanley and Mr. Bob Carey:

On behalf of Kevin J. Kennedy, Director and General Counsel of the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board, and Wisconsin's Chief Election Official, I am writing to submit the enclosed Waiver Request in accordance with UOCAVA § 102(a)(8)(A), for Wisconsin's November 2, 2010, General Election.

On May 25, 2010, we received a memorandum from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) via email, informing State Election Directors in part that FVAP:

"..... is currently developing detailed guidance on the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act's undue hardship waiver request process for distribution to all Chief State Election Officials. It is anticipated that this further guidance will be available soon. In the interim, while we encourage you to await further detailed guidance, there is no prohibition against any State preparing or submitting an application for an undue hardship waiver, pursuant to the statutory language provided in the MOVE Act.

If such a waiver request is received prior to issuance of the requested detailed guidance, this office will respond to it in as timely a manner as possible. Please be advised that the FVAP Program Analysts will not be able to provide guidance for questions on this process until the detailed guidance is available."

Based on this information, we have been waiting to receive final guidance before submitting our Waiver Request. As of the date of this correspondence however, the final waiver guidance is still not available. We are submitting Wisconsin's Waiver Request in the absence of the final guidance because we are running out of time. When FVAP promulgates final guidance and if we (or FVAP) determine it affects our Waiver Request, we will amend our Waiver Request and Plan accordingly. Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of our UOCAVA § 102(a)(8)(A) Waiver Request for Wisconsin's November 2, 2010, General Election.

Best wishes and kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Robinson'.

NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON
Election Division Administrator
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

Cover Page for a State Undue Hardship Waiver Request

1. State Name and postal abbreviation: **Wisconsin (WI)**

2. Chief State Election Official (CSEO)

First Name: **Kevin** Last Name: **Kennedy**
Title: **Director and General Counsel, Wisconsin Government Accountability Board**
Address: **212 E. Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor**
Address: **P.O. Box 7984**
City: **Madison** State: **WI** Zip: **53707** +4: **7984**
Email: **Kevin.Kennedy@wi.gov** Phone: **608-261-8683** Fax: **608-267-0500**



X

August 2, 2010

Signature (digital signature accepted):

Date:

3. Preferred State Election Contact:

First Name: **David** Last Name: **Buerger**
Title: **Elections Specialist**
Address: **212 E. Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor**
Address: **P.O. Box 7984**
City: **Madison** State: **WI** Zip: **53707** +4: **7984**
Email: **David.Buerger@wi.gov** Phone: **608-267-0951** Fax: **608-267-0500**

4. Acknowledgement of UOCAVA voters' right to vote

Wisconsin recognizes that the purpose of 42 USC 1973ff-1(a)(8)(A) is to allow absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters sufficient time to vote in an election for federal office.

Type initials: **KJK** Date: **8/2/2010**

5. Type of hardship claimed (check one)

- ☒ 2(b)i. Undue hardship due to a late primary.
☐ 2(b)ii. Undue hardship due to a legal challenge
☐ 2(b)iii. Undue hardship caused by a state constitutional prohibition.

Please indicate location in package that identifies your plan to resolve the problem:

6. Please indicate the location in the package that contains the section in the comprehensive plan identifying the State's explanation for the necessity of the waiver request. **Page 2**
7. On what date(s) will the State require ballots to be available and sent? **October 4, 2010**
8. Please indicate the location in the package that contains the section in the comprehensive plan identifying how the State plans to provide sufficient time for UOCAVA voters, who have timely submitted an absentee ballot request, to receive, mark, and submit their ballots in time to have those ballots counted? **Pages 3-4**
9. If included, indicate the location in the package that contains the section in the comprehensive plan identifying how the State plans to resolve the underlying issue prior to the next election for federal office, including steps already taken, to be taken, timelines, and supporting documentation? **This will be a legislative decision, informed by a comprehensive report by the G.A.B. based on our experiences in 2010.**

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KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: August 2, 2010

TO: Dr. Clifford L. Stanley
Presidential Designee for UOCAVA
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel Readiness
United States Department of Defense
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

Bob Carey, Director
Federal Voting Assistance Program
1777 North Kent Street, Suite #14003
Arlington, VA 22209-2162

FROM: Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board
(Wisconsin's Chief Election Official)

Prepared by: David Buerger
Elections Specialist
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

SUBJECT: UOCAVA § 102(a)(8)(A) Waiver Request for the November 2, 2010 General Election

Introduction

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff to -7 (UOCAVA), as amended by the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act, Pub. L. No. 111-84, Subtitle H, §§ 575-589, 123 Stat. 2195, 2318-2335 (2009), imposes a number of new requirements on state and local election officials (see attached MOVE Implementation Plan). One of the primary requirements of the MOVE Act was that the State transmit the official printed ballot to absent uniformed services and overseas voters no later than September 18, 2010 (45 days before the November 2, 2010 election). Wisconsin Statute § 5.02(18) requires our primary to be held on the 2nd Tuesday in September. In 2010, this will be September 14th. As such, there are only 49 days between Wisconsin's primary and the general election. As the canvassing process alone takes a minimum of 14 days, under the existing election timeline there is no possibility that the official printed ballots could be ready by September 18, 2010. As such, Wisconsin is requesting a waiver of this requirement pursuant to UOCAVA § 102(g).

However, Wisconsin does meet the intent of the MOVE Act by sending official state write-in absentee ballots (SWAB) to all military and overseas electors with an absentee application on file no later than 90 days before the election. Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(cs) (2010). The SWAB, along with electronic transmission of the official printed ballot when it is ready, and an extended receipt deadline for military voters has proven successful in meeting the needs of Wisconsin's military and overseas citizens.

Background

Wisconsin is unable to transmit the official printed absentee ballots to absent uniformed services and overseas voters by September 18, 2010, because Wisconsin law currently requires the State's partisan primary to be held on the 2nd Tuesday in September (September 14 in 2010) and statutorily prescribed post-election deadlines do not allow the ballot to be certified in time to meet the September 18th deadline. *See* Wis. Stat. §§ 5.02(18), 5.72(1), 6.221(3)(a), 6.97(3), 7.08(2)(c), 7.51(5), 7.52, 7.60(5), 8.37, 10.06(1)(i) (2010).

The canvassing process alone can take up to two weeks to complete. Electors who cast a provisional ballot have until 4:00 p.m. on the day following the election to provide their missing information so their ballot can be included in the local municipal canvass and included with the materials delivered to the county clerk. Wis. Stat. §§ 6.97(3), 7.51(5). Municipalities that canvass absentee ballots in a location other than the polling place have until 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd day following election day to deliver their materials to the county clerk. Wis. Stat. §§ 7.51(5), 7.52. Ballots from military electors, postmarked by election day, are also required to be counted if received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the 7th day after the partisan primary election day (September 21 in 2010). Wis. Stat. § 6.221(3)(a). Municipal clerks are also required to deliver any military ballots that were counted subsequent to election day to the county clerk no later than 4 p.m. on the day following receipt of the ballot, which could be as late as September 22, 2010. Wis. Stat. §§ 6.221(3)(a) - (b), 7.51(5). The county canvass must be completed no later than 10 days after the September primary (September 24 in 2010). Wis. Stat. 7.60(5). Finally, the Government Accountability Board is required to certify the results of the September primary and transmit that information to the county clerks no later than the 4th Tuesday in September (September 28 in 2010). Wis. Stat. §§ 7.08(2)(c), 10.06(1)(i).

Unrelated to the canvass, but also bearing on the readiness of the ballot is the fact that Wisconsin also permits referendum questions for the general election ballot to be filed up until 42 days before the election (September 21 in 2010). Wis. Stat. § 8.37. Such a referendum question must then be filed with the county clerk no later than the end of the next business day (September 22 in 2010). *Id.*

Once the ballot is certified, county clerks are required to prepare the official printed ballots immediately and send a copy of the ballot as soon as possible to the Government Accountability Board for proofing. Wis. Stat. § 5.72(1). Wisconsin currently requires that the official printed absentee ballots be available to all voters no later than 30 days before the general election (October 4 in 2010). Wis. Stat. §§ 7.10(3), 7.15(1)(cm).

Wisconsin municipal clerks are required to send every military and overseas elector who requests an absentee ballot before the official printed ballot is available an official state write-in absentee ballot (SWAB) for each election in which they are eligible to vote as soon as the offices to be elected are known, but no later than 90 days before the election (August 4 in 2010), or within 24 hours of receiving the request, whichever is later. Wis. Stat. §§ 6.25, 7.15(1)(cs). Wisconsin municipal clerks follow up the SWAB with the official printed ballot no later than 30 days before the election. Wis. Stat. §§ 7.10(3), 7.15(1)(cm). A SWAB is accepted in the event that the official ballot is not received back from the military or overseas voter by their respective deadlines. Wis. Stat. §§ 6.25(2) - (4). Wisconsin municipal election officials will also accept a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for any military or overseas voter who has transmitted absentee request no later than 30 days before the general election (October 4 in 2010), if no other official ballot is received. Wis. Stat. § 6.25(1). Including the FWAB, a military or overseas elector has three distinct opportunities to vote a ballot for the general election.

The Wisconsin legislative calendar, set January 2009, for the 2009-2010 session simply did not allow for full consideration of adjusting these deadlines by the end of the floor session on May 6, 2010.

Compliance Plan

Wisconsin is achieving compliance with UOCAVA as newly amended by the MOVE Act within an existing statutory framework, including compliance with the intent of UOCAVA § 102(a)(8)(A), which requires transmission of the absentee ballot no later than 45 days before an election for Federal office. To ensure that absent uniformed services and overseas voters are able to receive absentee ballots that they have requested and submit marked absentee ballots to election officials in time to have that ballot counted, the State of Wisconsin provides the following:

- Military electors are exempt from voter registration. Wis. Stat. § 6.22(3).
- Municipal clerks are required to mail a voter registration application to an overseas elector upon written (including fax/email) or oral request. Wis. Stat. § 6.30(4). Voter registration applications are also available in electronic format at the Government Accountability Board website (<http://gab.wi.gov/taxonomy/term/5>).
- Municipal clerks shall prepare and transmit official write-in absentee ballots (SWAB) to all military and overseas electors with an absentee application on file as soon as the offices to be elected are determined, but no later than 90 days before the election (August 4 in 2010). Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(cs).
- Municipal clerks shall continue to transmit official write-in absentee ballots (SWAB) to all military and overseas electors within one day of receipt of an absentee application until the official ballots are ready. *Id.*
- Municipal clerks shall accept the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) at the general election from all overseas and military electors if received by the respective deadline. Wis. Stat. § 6.25(1).
- Any elector may request an official absentee ballot via fax or email as long as election officials receive the original signed application no later than the deadline to return the voted ballot. Wis. Stat. §§ 6.86(1)(ac), 6.87(3)(d), (4).
- Official absentee ballots are required to be transmitted to all electors with an absentee application on file no later than 30 days before the general election (October 4 in 2010) or transmitted within 1 day of the application's receipt by the clerk. Wis. Stat. § 7.15(1)(cm).
- Municipal clerks may transmit official absentee ballots to any requesting elector by fax or email. Wis. Stat. § 6.87(3)(d). In compliance with the MOVE Act, the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) has directed all municipal election officials that electronic transmission is required if a military or overseas elector so requests.
- Absent uniformed service electors may return their voted ballot to Wisconsin election officials and have it be counted up to 10 days after the general election as long as the ballot was postmarked by election day. Wis. Stat. § 6.221(3)(b).
- Military and overseas electors may confirm the date their absentee application was received, the date the write-in ballot was transmitted, the date the official ballot was transmitted, and the date their voted ballot was received by election officials via the Government Accountability Board's Voter Public Access website (<https://vpa.wi.gov>).
- The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) actively monitors the transmission and receipt of military and overseas ballots via our Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) and will continue to do so.

Wisconsin also stands on its record of providing excellent service to our military and overseas voters in a timely manner. Wisconsin is called home by 15,752 active uniformed service members serving overseas.¹ An additional 3,369 voting age dependents claim Wisconsin as their home state.² The total number of overseas citizens claiming Wisconsin as their home state is unknown. The following table illustrates Wisconsin military and overseas voters' absentee voting statistics for the November 4, 2008, General and Presidential Election, which is Wisconsin's most recent election featuring Federal offices.

Absentee Voting Statistics Wisconsin's Military and Overseas Voters General and Presidential Election, November 4, 2008						
	Issued	Not Returned	Returned Undeliverable	Returned Voted	Rejected	Counted
Military	5,562	1,741 (31%)	308 (6%)	3,513 (63%)	76 (2%)	3,437 (98%)
Overseas	4,530	1,123 (25%)	178 (4%)	3,229 (71%)	170 (5%)	3,059 (95%)
Total	10,092	2,864 (28%)	486 (5%)	6,742 (67%)	246 (4%)	6,496 (96%)

This data shows that while there are a significant number of military and overseas ballots not returned to Wisconsin election officials (28%), of those that are returned voted the overwhelming majority (96%) are counted. Also, the 4% that were not counted could have been rejected for many reasons, such as improper certification, lack of a valid witness signature, etc. *See Wis. Stat. § 6.88(3)(b).*

Finally, Wisconsin's current military and overseas voting procedures have been reviewed and evaluated by two independent sources and been given the highest rating available by both despite having a September primary. In a study by American University³, Wisconsin ranked the highest among all states for its absentee procedures for military and overseas voters. American University particularly noted that Wisconsin comes the closest of all the states to the Carter-Baker Commission's recommendations⁴ for military and overseas voting. Also, in the seminal work⁵ on military and overseas voting, the PEW Center on the States rated Wisconsin as "Time to Vote", their highest rating. The PEW study also found that it took only 26 days for an overseas elector to complete our absentee process from start to finish, making Wisconsin one of the top 10 states in this category.

Conclusion

Wisconsin is unable to comply with the 45-day ballot transmission requirement of UOCAVA §102(a)(8)(A) due to the date of our partisan primary (September 14 in 2010) and the associated post-election canvassing schedule. However, Wisconsin does comply with the spirit of the MOVE Act by sending official write-in absentee ballots to all military and overseas electors with an absentee application on file no later than 90 days before the election. The official write-in ballot, along with electronic transmission of the official printed ballot when it is ready, and an extended receipt deadline for military voters has proven successful in meeting the needs of Wisconsin's military and overseas citizens. Wisconsin also has an independently verified track record of providing sufficient time for our overseas and military electors to exercise their right to vote. Combined with the implementation of the remainder of the MOVE Act's requirements (see attachment), we are confident that Wisconsin's military and overseas electors will be able to fully participate in the November 2, 2010 general election.

¹ Per email from Kathleen McDonnell, staff of the Federal Voting Assistance Program, on April 14, 2010. Data current as of December 2009.

² *Id.*

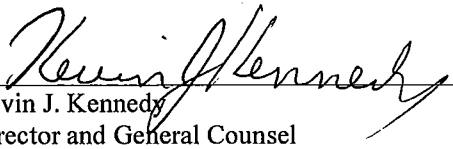
³ American University, *The State of Elections in the Fifty States: Evaluating the Process Where It Counts*, (July 2009), at <http://www1.american.edu/ia/cdem/pdfs/CDEM%20Final%20Rpt%20of%20the%20States%20-%20July%2015%2009.pdf>.

⁴ Carter-Baker Commission on Federal Election Reform, *Building Confidence in U.S. Elections*, (September 2005), at http://www1.american.edu/ia/cfer/report/report.html#sect4_4

⁵ PEW Center on the States, *No Time to Vote – Challenges Facing America's Overseas Military Voters*, (January 2009), at http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Election_reform/NTTV_Report_Web.pdf

Acknowledgement

Wisconsin recognizes that the purpose of 42 USC 1973ff-1(a)(8)(A) is to allow absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters sufficient time to vote in an election for federal office.



Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board
(Wisconsin's Chief Election Official)

8/2/10
Date

cc: The Honorable Jim Doyle, Governor
Members (select), Wisconsin State Legislature
Members, Wisconsin Government Accountability Board
Brigadier General Donald P. Dunbar, Adjutant General, Department of Military Affairs
Secretary Dan Schoof, Wisconsin Department of Administration

Nathaniel E. Robinson
Election Division Administrator
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

Attachment: MOVE Act Implementation Plan

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Director and General Counsel

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Wisconsin's MOVE Act Compliance Plan & Implementation Timetable
Prepared for the United States Department of Justice Per Request on May 3, 2010
Annotated With Current Status as of August 2, 2010

1. § 102(a)(6)(A) – Procedures for Electronic Requests for Voter Registration Applications & Absentee Ballot Applications

The G.A.B. has authority to “promulgate [administrative] rules... applicable to all jurisdictions for the purpose of interpreting or implementing the laws regulating the conduct of elections or election campaigns or ensuring their proper administration.” Wis. Stat. § [5.05\(1\)\(f\)](#).

The municipal clerk is required to mail a voter registration form to any elector upon written request. Wis. Stat. § [6.30\(4\)](#). The G.A.B. interprets a written request to include all email and fax requests for voter registration. Any registered elector may make written application to the municipal clerk for an official ballot by mail, in-person, by agent, via electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Wis. Stat. § [6.86\(1\)\(a\)](#).

2. § 102(a)(6)(B) – Procedures for Electronic Transmissions of Voter Registration Applications & Absentee Ballot Applications

The G.A.B. has authority to “promulgate [administrative] rules... applicable to all jurisdictions for the purpose of interpreting or implementing the laws regulating the conduct of elections or election campaigns or ensuring their proper administration.” Wis. Stat. § [5.05\(1\)\(f\)](#).

The municipal clerk is required to mail a voter registration form to any elector upon written request. Wis. Stat. § [6.30\(4\)](#). The G.A.B. permits electronic transmission of the blank registration form in lieu of mailing where practical. “Any elector [who is registered to vote whenever required and who qualifies under §§ [6.20](#) and [6.85](#) as an absent elector] may make written application to the municipal clerk for an official ballot by means of facsimile transmission or electronic mail.” Wis. Stat. § [6.86\(1\)\(ac\)](#).

3. § 102(a)(6)(C) – Procedures for Voter Designation of Means of Transmission Preference

The G.A.B. currently plans to capture the elector’s preference for means of transmission by modifying our existing absentee ballot application ([GAB-121](#)) to include a place for the elector to indicate a fax number or email address for elections officials to send voting materials. The G.A.B. will also forward email or fax requests for voter registration or absentee ballot applications received by G.A.B. to the appropriate local elections official.

Status Update: The GAB-121 has been updated as indicated above.

4. § 102(a)(7) – Procedures for Electronic Transmissions of Blank Absentee Ballots

The municipal clerk may “transmit a facsimile or electronic copy of the absent elector’s ballot to that elector in lieu of mailing under this subsection.” Wis. Stat. § [6.87\(3\)\(d\)](#). The procedures for transmission of a blank absentee ballot via email or fax are spelled out in the G.A.B.’s “Military and Overseas Absentee Voting Manual” (rev. 7/06) at

http://gab.wi.gov/sites/default/files/publication/65/military_and_overseas_voting_manual_pdf_11607.pdf and memo entitled “Procedures for Faxing or E-mailing Absentee Ballots to Wisconsin Voters” (rev 1/11/07) at http://gab.wi.gov/sites/default/files/publication/65/fax_email_ballots_pdf_13848.pdf.

Status Update: The Military and Overseas Voting Manual is still accurate, but will be updated before the November 2, 2010 election to include additional information regarding the MOVE Act’s requirements.

5. § 102(a)(8)(A) & (B) – Transmission of Requested Absentee Ballots

Wisconsin municipal clerks are required to transmit a SWAB to any military or overseas elector with an absentee application on file. Wis. Stat. §§ [6.25\(2\)](#) & [\(3\)](#), [7.15\(1\)\(cs\)](#). The SWAB must be transmitted no later than 90 days before the election (or within 1 day after the request is received), up to the day the official ballots are available for absentee voting. *Id.* Wisconsin will continue to transmit official absentee ballots within 30 days of the election in accordance with State law in a manner that expedites the transmission of such absentee ballot whenever practical. Wis. Stat. § [6.87\(3\)\(d\)](#).

6. § 102(a)(9) – Transmission of Absentee Ballots for a Runoff Election

Wisconsin does not hold runoff elections.

7. § 102(a)(10) – Local Processing and Acceptance of Marked Absentee Ballots of UOCAVA Voters

Wisconsin provides extended deadlines for our overseas military voters. Ballots postmarked no later than election day may be accepted and processed up to 7 days after the September primary and 10 days after the General election. Wis. Stat. [6.221\(3\)](#).

8. § 102(a)(11) – Reporting of Data

Using the online Wisconsin Election Data Collection System, our local election officials already report the following data for every election: ballots issued, ballots returned undeliverable, ballots returned voted, ballots counted, and ballots rejected. These five data points are captured separately for military/overseas state write-in ballots, military absentee voters, and overseas absentee voters. Local election officials also capture the following data regarding the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB): ballots returned voted, ballots counted and ballots rejected. If further information is required, the Wisconsin Election Data Collection System can be modified to collect that data.

9. § 102(e)(1) – Designation of Means of Electronic Communication with UOCAVA Voters

It is anticipated at this point that the G.A.B. will designate its general fax number (608-267-0500) and email address (gab@wi.gov) as the means of electronic communication with state elections officials. G.A.B. anticipates a number of municipal clerks will also designate and maintain their own email addresses or fax numbers for communications from military and overseas electors.

Status Update: The G.A.B. has designated the above contact information for Wisconsin.

10. § 102(e)(3) – Inclusion of Designated Means of Electronic Communication with Balloting Materials

The G.A.B. is currently planning to revise our absentee balloting materials to include our fax number and email address as well as a place for local election officials to include their own electronic contact information. Local elections officials will also be instructed to include this information with all informational and instructional materials that accompany balloting materials sent to military and overseas voters.

Status Update: In-Progress.

11. § 102(e)(5) – Default Means of Transmission If No Preference Indicated

Wisconsin will transmit absentee ballots to electors who indicate no transmission preference in accordance with State law in a manner that expedites the transmission of such absentee ballot whenever practical. Wis. Stat. § [6.87\(3\)\(d\)](#).

12. § 102(e)(6)(A) – Security Protections

The Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) is required to be a secured system that is only accessible by authorized users. Wis. Stat. § [6.36](#). The SVRS web interface is secured through a secure socket layer (SSL) certificate, creating a secure server environment (https). Workstation and transmission security is provided through a secure Citrix Client and the installation of a security certificate required to access the SVRS interface. User access security is provided through secure user groups created through MS Active Directory. Active Directory controls the user login, password and group information. User permissions or roles are provided through the AESM Administration tool, restricting access to the user's jurisdiction only and the level of permissions assigned to the user's group. The Voter Public Access interface is also secured through a SSL certificate.

13. § 102(e)(6)(B) – Privacy Protections

Wisconsin elections officials are required to keep a public list of all electors who apply for an absentee ballot. Wis. Stat. § [6.89](#). This list must contain the name and address of the applicant as well as the date of the application. *Id.* Other personally identifiable information such as date of birth, driver license number or social security number are strictly confidential. Wis. Stat. § [6.36\(1\)\(b\)1.a](#).

14. § 102(f) – Procedures for Transmission of Blank Absentee Ballots

See § 102(a)(7) above at Wisconsin's MOVE Act Compliance Plan or Implementation Timetable, page 1.

15. § 102(h) – Tracking Marked Ballots

Wisconsin's Voter Public Access (VPA) website (<https://vpa.wi.gov/>) is a free system by which voters can verify their voter status, find their polling place, and check the status of cast provisional ballots. VPA displays information contained within our Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS), the application used by our local election officials to conduct elections. Enhancements to SVRS and VPA will allow military and overseas voters to verify the receipt of their absentee ballot.

Status Update: The above indicated enhancements have been made to the SVRS and VPA.

16. § 102(i) – Prohibiting Refusal to Accept Applications for Failure to Meet Certain Requirements

Wisconsin does not require notarization, specific paper or envelope specifications for voter registration or absentee ballot applications.

17. § 103 – Local Processing and Acceptance of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

Wisconsin currently only accepts the FWAB for the General election. Wis. Stat. § [6.25\(1\)](#). The G.A.B. plans to seek remedial legislation to allow the FWAB to be accepted for all elections for Federal office in the next legislative session. Please note that the next scheduled election for Federal office in Wisconsin after November 2010 is not until September 2012.

The following is a projected timetable for implementation of the new procedures:

Month	Day	Activity to Be Completed	Status as of 8/2/10
May	11	Clerk advisory committee to discuss MOVE procedures	Completed
	17	Absentee Ballot Tracking System feed to be determined	Completed
	18	Draft changes to absentee balloting instructions and materials due	Completed
June	15	Absentee balloting instructions and materials finalized for publication	In-Progress
	24	Development Completed on SVRS Version 7.1	Completed
	25	Patch 7.1 Installed in Testing Environment	Completed
	28	Testing begins on Version 7.1	Completed
July	23	Testing completed on Version 7.1	Completed
	25	Patch 7.1 Installed in Production Environment	Completed
August	4	State Write-In Ballots sent to military and overseas electors for General Election	Pending
	4	Absentee Ballot Tracking System training completed	Pending
	15	First day to issue absentee ballots for the September Partisan Primary	Pending
October	3	Municipal clerks have official ballots available for the General Election	Pending
September	14	September Partisan Primary	Pending
November	2	General Election	Pending
	12	Deadline to receive and count military absentee ballots.	Pending