

Second HAVA State Plan Committee Meeting
April 10, 2003
3 - 4:30 p.m.
Teleconference Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Mona Lisa Drexler, Fairbanks North Star Borough Municipal Clerk
Katy Suiter, City of Ketchikan Municipal Clerk
Tara Sweeney, Special Assistant to the Governor for Rural Affairs
Tom Maher, legislative aide attending on behalf of Senate President Gene Therriault
Rynniva Moss, legislative aide attending on behalf of Representative John B. Coghill
Sarah Felix, Assistant Attorney General
Pam Crowe, Division of Elections Region I Supervisor
Doug Pryor, Division of Elections Region II Acting Supervisor
JoAnne Baker, member, League of Women Voters
Major Tim Nelson, Elmendorf Installation Voting Officer
Lynne Koral, President, Alaska Independent Blind Jim Beck, Executive Director, Access Alaska
Laura Glaiser, Director, Division of Elections

Members Absent:

Representative Mary Kapsner
Mario Lim, representative, Alternative Language Community

Guest Present:

Todd Larkin, legislative aide to Representative Jim Holm

Call to Order:

Director of Elections Laura Glaiser called the meeting to order, welcoming those in attendance.

Laura noted that changes to the draft plan recommended by the Committee at the March 26, 2003 meeting, on pages 6, 9, 11 and 12 of the plan, had been made. Lynne Koral moved to adopt the minutes of the March 26 meeting; motion seconded by Sarah Felix; motion passed with no objection.

General Discussion of Plan:

Lynne Koral stated that she felt the Division of Elections should consider distributing before an election certain materials that are available to help voters at polling places, i.e., perhaps information about DREs in Braille for those who are sight-impaired. Lynne also asked about standards that allow an electronic ballot to be declared legal. Laura explained the paper audit trail. She also explained that DREs will be defined in statute once DREs are in the division's possession.

Katy Suiter inquired about a timeline for the draft HAVA plan. Laura presented the following timeline:

1. The committee and division staff will make any necessary changes today.
2. The draft plan will then be available on the Division's web site.
3. A notice about the public comment period between April 28 - May 28 will be placed in newspapers.
4. When all public comments are received any appropriate changes will be made to the state plan.
5. The plan will be sent to the Committee for review.
6. The plan will then be sent to the Federal Election Commission's Election Assistance Commission by mid-June.

Laura noted that the Department of Justice waived pre-clearance requirements on HAVA plans for the five states that are required to pre-clear.

Rynnieva Moss moved to adopt Alaska's state plan and put it out for public comment. Motion seconded by Lynne Koral. There being no objection, the plan was unanimously adopted.

Laura thanked the Committee and the Division staff for its work in preparing and reviewing the plan. Mona Lisa Drexler stated that she believed it was a testament to the Division of Elections that so few Committee changes were made to the plan.

Laura noted that the elections bill bringing the Division into compliance with HAVA will be introduced in the Legislature within the next few days and that it must be passed this year. She asked Committee members to watch for it and she encouraged the group to send public opinion messages supporting the legislation.

Responding to a question from Lynne Koral, Laura stated that 10 DREs are currently included in the Division's capital request.

The Division will send e-mails to Committee members when the plan is in final form.

The meeting was adjourned.