Federal Register

Thursday,
November 12, 2009

Part II

Election Assistance Commission

Publication of State Plan Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act; Notice

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Publication of State Plan Pursuant to the Help America Vote Act

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to sections 254(a)(11)(A) and 255(b) of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Public Law 107–252, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) hereby causes to be published in the **Federal Register** changes to the HAVA State plans previously submitted by New Jersey and Wisconsin.

DATES: This notice is effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bryan Whitener, Telephone 202–566–3100 or 1–866–747–1471 (toll-free).

Submit Comments: Any comments regarding the plans published herewith should be made in writing to the chief election official of the individual State at the address listed below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 24, 2004, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission published in the **Federal Register** the original HAVA State plans filed by the fifty States, the District of Columbia and the Territories of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. 69 FR 14002. HAVA anticipated that States, Territories and the District of Columbia would change or update their plans from time to time pursuant to HAVA section 254(a)(11) through (13). HAVA sections 254(a)(11)(A) and 255 require EAC to publish such updates. This is the second revision to New Jersey's State plan and the first revision to Wisconsin's State plan.

The revised State plan from New Jersey provides information on program accomplishments and changes in the respective budgets to account for the use of Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009 requirements payments in addition to any future HAVA funding. The revised State plan from Wisconsin provides a total revision to its previous State plan including information on program accomplishments and changes in the respective budgets to account for the use of Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009 requirements payments. In accordance with HAVA section 254(a)(12), all the State plans submitted for publication provide information on how the respective State succeeded in carrying out its previous State plan. New Jersey and Wisconsin confirm that these revisions to their respective State plans were developed and submitted to public comment in accordance with HAVA sections 254(a)(11), 255, and 256.

Upon the expiration of thirty days from November 12, 2009, the State is eligible to implement the changes addressed in the plan that is published herein, in accordance with HAVA section 254(a)(11)(C). EAC wishes to acknowledge the effort that went into revising this State plan and encourages further public comment, in writing, to the State election official listed below.

Chief State Election Official

The Honorable Nina Mitchell Wells, Esq., Secretary of State, P.O. Box 304, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, Phone: (609) 292–3760, Fax: (609) 777–1280.

Mr. Kevin J. Kennedy, Director and General Counsel, Government Accountability Board, Post Office Box 2973, 212 East Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor, Madison, Wisconsin 53701, Phone: (608) 266–8005, Fax: (608) 267–0500.

Thank you for your interest in improving the voting process in America.

Dated: October 27, 2009.

Thomas R. Wilkey,

Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

BILLING CODE 6820–KF–P

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
"HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002"

SECOND ADDENDUM TO STATE PLAN
SECTION ONE AND SECTION SIX

On August 15, 2003, the State of New Jersey ("State") filed its Initial State Plan ("Plan"), pursuant to the "Help America Vote Act of 2002" ("HAVA") with the Federal Election Commission, the authorized depository for the HAVA State plans prior to the establishment of the United States Election Assistance Commission ("EAC"). The Plan detailed the manner in which the State intended to meet the requirements of HAVA and the projected corresponding costs for implementation.

The State certified to the EAC, by letter dated June 25, 2007 that it was in compliance with the current HAVA funds received by the State for the mandated Title III requirements.

In 2007, the State presented an Addendum to Section One and Section Six of the Initial Plan. The Section One Addendum dedicated $15 million of the HAVA funds to implement a voter-verified paper audit trail (commonly referred to as "VVPAT") for the voting systems and Section Six of the Plan set forth a corresponding, revised budget.

This second Addendum reflects updates and changes to Section One and Section Six of the previous Addendum to the Plan. This Addendum has been prepared in accordance with the procedural requirements of section 253 of HAVA. The HAVA State Plan Committee convened on January 22, 2009 to provide input.

On March 6, 2009, the State suspended the law that required a voter-verified paper audit trail on all voting machines due to the inability of the State to provide matching funds. As a result of this change, the State has determined that the appropriated HAVA funds for a voter-verified paper audit trail should be redirected to other HAVA activities, as set forth below.

I. Current and Anticipated 2008/2009 HAVA Funds

As noted above, the State intends to reallocate $15 million it currently has in its HAVA Election Fund. In addition, the State is currently eligible to receive $3,331,893 in 2008 requirement payments, and $2,897,298 in 2009 requirement payments.

Of the $15 million that the State intends to reallocate, $2 million will be used to purchase additional voting machines in counties that have added election districts due to population increases. The State will reallocate $13 million of the above-noted $15 million, and the expected 2008/2009 funding to four HAVA required mandates: Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS), Voter Education/Outreach, Election Officials' Training, and State Management as follows:

- General maintenance, enhancements, and updates to the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) ($8,000,000);
- Geographical Information System (GIS) enhancements to the SVRS that will, in part, assist counties in their Congressional redistricting responsibilities after the 2010 census. This enhancement will provide an interface to the 21 counties' Geographical Information Systems. This will enable the SVRS to identify geo-codes (longitude and latitude) of every voter address, making it easier to align the voter to a newly developed or changed election district. ($1,000,000);
- Enhancements to the Public Access website including improved ease of use for voters, voter education and information, and real time election night results reporting ($1,000,000);
- Continuation of voter education and outreach initiatives ($1,000,000);
- Development and implementation of a knowledge-based online help desk support system for county election officials as well as voters. The system will assist county election officials in administering their election responsibilities and allow voters to educate themselves on election procedures and deadlines. The system will also have the ability to resolve and track issues in each county. ($4,000,000);
- Development and implementation of online poll worker training which will assist in improving poll worker training and performance. The system will be used in conjunction with classroom teaching and will include additional learning tools as well as tests. ($1,000,000); and
- State Management costs ($3,128,191)

Please see attached spreadsheet.

II. Any Future HAVA Funding

In addition, New Jersey plans to utilize any additional funds from future requirement payments in the following manner:

50% will be applied towards State Management of HAVA.
30% will be applied towards the Statewide Voter Registration System.
10% will be applied towards voter education and outreach.
10% will be applied towards election officials training.

Preliminary HAVA Budget Summary

	Original State Plan	1st Addendum to State Plan	2nd Addendum to State Plan
1. Voting Machine Reimbursement (Includes Voting Machines and Audio Kit Purchases)	$ 38,675,000.00	$40,500,000.00	$42,500,000.00
VVPAT	$ -	$ 15,000,000.00	$ -
2. Statewide Voter Registration System	$ 20,000,000.00	$ 25,000,000.00	$34,000,000.00
3. Provisional Balloting	$ 1,000,000.00	$ 1,000,000.00	$ 1,000,000.00
4. Revised Forms and Notices	$ 500,000.00	$ 500,000.00	$ 500,000.00
5. Disability Access (Excluding Voting System) (this is not 261)	$ 750,000.00	$ 750,000.00	$ 750,000.00
6. Administrative Grievance Procedure	$ 250,000.00	$ 250,000.00	$ 250,000.00
7. Voter Education & Outreach	$ 3,000,000.00	$ 3,500,000.00	$ 5,500,000.00
8. Election Officials Training	$ 1,000,000.00	$ 500,000.00	$ 5,500,000.00
9. State Management-Includes Administrative and Salaries	$ 3,000,000.00	$ 5,500,000.00	$ 8,628,191.00
Total	$ 68,175,000.00	$ 92,500,000.00	$98,628,191.00

State of Wisconsin
Government Accountability Board

WISCONSIN'S 2009-2014 ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN

October 1, 2009
September 30, 2014

A Strategic Direction for Election Administration in Wisconsin
Wisconsin Dynamic Plan for Achieving the Help America Vote Act of 2002

submitted to the

United States Election Assistance Commission
1225 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005

October 2009

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

CONTACT PERSONS

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Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

GUIDING POLICIES, PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

The development of Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan was guided by the following core policies, principles and values. The 2009-2014 Plan must:

- **Improve Election Administration**
  Examine initiatives to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of elections
- **Preserve, Protect and Advance Voting Integrity**
  Ensure open, fair and transparent elections
- **Improve Voter Participation and the Voting Experience**
  Explore alternatives and options for casting votes
- **Improve Administrative Efficiency**
  Reduce election-related burdens on local election officials
- **Improve Collaboration with Our Customers and Policy Makers**
  A continuing commitment to consult, collaborate with and seek advice from county and municipal election officials, members of the state legislature, voters, other concerned and interested parties, elected officials and advocacy groups.

WISCONSIN ELECTION ADMINISTRATION CHARACTERISTICS AT-A-GLANCE

(As of August 2009)

- 5.6 million residents
- 4.3 million voting age population
- 3.5 million registered voters
- 1,850 towns, villages and cities
- 1,922 local election officials
- 20,000 to 30,000 poll workers
- 2,822 polling places
- 3,600 wards/precincts reporting election data

Note: These numbers are subject to change from one election to another.

IMPORTANT PLAN CONSTRUCTS

1. The State of Wisconsin achieved compliance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, on August 5, 2008. Wisconsin, through its Government Accountability Board, commits to using HAVA funds, first and foremost, to maintain compliance with HAVA requirements.

2. Many of the proposed initiatives and reforms contained in Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan (the Plan) will require approval by the Wisconsin Legislature before implementation.

3. Over the five-year span of the Plan, the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board and staff, will lead efforts to examine, review, explore and study the proposed initiatives and reforms to determine their application to Wisconsin's decentralized election administration system and business practices.

4. The collaborative and interactive partnership model that the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board currently uses for the study of election administration public policy, will continue to be used for examining and deliberating the merits of the proposed initiatives and reforms, and how such reforms if implemented, may further improve and advance election administration in Wisconsin.

5. The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board will continue to work in close consultation with its customers, partners, constituents and stakeholders, including but not limited to:

   - 1,850 municipal clerks;
   - 72 county clerks;
   - Wisconsin's 3.5 million eligible registered voters;
   - Other local and statewide election officials;
   - Wisconsin Governor and Members of the Wisconsin Legislature;
   - Local and Statewide Law Enforcement;
   - City Mayors, Village Board Presidents and Town Chairpersons;
   - Other local and statewide elected representatives;
   - The Wisconsin Election Administration Council; and,
   - Other interested and concerned residents and groups.

6. The elements in this Plan focus on strategic initiatives that are designed not only to maintain compliance with HAVA, but also advance Wisconsin forward by significantly improving election administration. Wisconsin's Government Accountability Board routinely utilizes an array of protocols, tools and instruments, including Federal and State laws to accomplish its mission. Those existing practices are not described in detail in this Plan, but they provide a foundation for the new initiatives and reforms proposed in Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

ABOUT WISCONSIN'S 2009-2014 ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN

In January 2003, the Executive Director of the former State Elections Board, Wisconsin's Chief Election Official, appointed a State Plan Committee comprised of county and municipal election officials, representatives of advocacy groups and others to assist in the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 planning process. The group met three times to discuss and develop the initial State Plan. This Plan was reviewed by legislators, advocacy groups and citizens. Public comment was also solicited at three feedback sessions held across the state. All public comments and feedback were considered in preparing the final version of the initial plan which was submitted to the United States Election Assistance Commission (US-EAC) in April 2004.

In 2004, Wisconsin was in a good position to implement the HAVA requirements. Many of the election reforms required by HAVA were already addressed in current state laws and procedures. The Wisconsin Election Administration Council (WI-EAC) was created by the Wisconsin Legislature to oversee the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 2004 Plan. The initial state election administration plan identified the priorities and specific steps that state and local election officials would take to meet the requirements of HAVA. It also discussed additional improvements that might be undertaken if there were remaining or additional federal funding after all of the requirements had been met. A summary of how Wisconsin met the priorities stated in the 2004 Plan is included in the Supplement section of this Plan.

In 2009, the Board's staff, in collaboration with the WI-EAC, commenced a process that included a review and analysis of Wisconsin's compliance with the 2004 Plan, and the development of a new five-year (2009-2014) strategic vision and direction for election administration in Wisconsin by 2014. The WI-EAC reconvened on April 16, June 17, and July 28 to continue to advise on development of the 2009-2014 Plan.

The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board, a nonpartisan group of six former judges, approved a synopsis of the draft 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan on June 22, 2009, for submission to the Wisconsin Legislature and the public for a 30-day review and comment period starting June 27, 2009. The Board will review the Plan again on August 10, 2009, as recommended by the WI-EAC. Following approval by the Wisconsin Legislative Joint Committee on Finance, the Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission for publication in the Federal Register. The 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan will take effect 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

It is important to know what the 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is and what it is not. The 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is not a *get in HAVA compliance strategy*. Wisconsin became fully HAVA compliant on August 5, 2008. The 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is a five-year visionary document and strategic direction for *remaining in compliance* with the Help America Vote Act of 2002. The 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is also much more than that! The Plan is designed to advance HAVA initiatives and examine, review, explore and study protocols that will specifically and systemically improve the administration of elections and retain Wisconsin's leadership in election administration over the next five years.

The 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan was not developed for the sole or exclusive purpose of capturing Federal Fiscal Years 2008, 2009, 2010 Requirements Payments, or any other HAVA Federal Funding during the next five years. If all the proposed activities in the Plan are to become a reality, based on the best available information and analyzed assumptions, the total amount of expenditures will require between $17 and $20 million dollars over the next five years. Of this amount, Wisconsin will be required to provide a 5% match, as required by HAVA.

The 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is a living document. The Government Accountability Board, through its Elections Division staff, will monitor the Plan's activities and implementation strategies on a quarterly basis. Updates and status reports will be provided to the Government Accountability Board. Additionally, in conjunction with the WI-EAC, the progress on the Plan's activities and implementation strategies will be reviewed annually. Whatever adjustments are needed, will be made annually and will be shared with the US-EAC as part of the on-going reporting requirements.

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WISCONSIN'S 2009-2014 ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

A Strategic Direction for Election Administration in Wisconsin
Wisconsin's Dynamic Plan for Achieving Compliance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002

INTRODUCTION

Located in the north-central United States, with Lake Michigan to the east, Lake Superior to the north, and the Mighty Mississippi to the west, Wisconsin's high quality of life assures a great place to live, work, go to school, play and do business! Wisconsin has a proud and long tradition of good, clean government.

Wisconsin is a state of medium-sized population (5.6 million) with a voting-age population of approximately 4.3 million, of which about 3.5 million are registered to vote. The State is made-up of 72 counties and 1,850 municipalities -- towns, villages and cities. Wisconsin has eight U.S. Representatives, two U. S. Senators, and ten Electoral votes.

Municipality Size	Number of Municipalities	Aggregate Population
<5,000	1,673	1,981,157
5,000-20,000	139	1,317,360
20,000-50,000	25	758,361
50,000-100,000	10	671,950
>100,000	3	919,341
Total	1,850	5,648,169

Wisconsin's population is sparsely scattered over 56,145 square miles. There are 114,141 miles of roads in Wisconsin. It takes about 7 hours to drive from the most southern part of the state to its northern peak and about 5 hours to go from across the state from the far west border to the far east border.

Wisconsin has a rich history of its residents participating in the electoral process. Our complex decentralized elections administration system in which elections are administered at the State level but conducted at the municipal (cities, villages and towns) level, rather than the county level, by 1,850 municipal clerks, with 72 county clerks coordinating certain administrative functions, is arguably the most decentralized in the nation. In terms of voter participation, Wisconsin traditionally has one of the highest voter turnout rates in the nation.

Wisconsin was a leader in developing a number of political innovations to enable residents to select their leaders as part of the democratic process. These innovations include the development of the open primary in 1903, the establishment of an independent state agency to administer elections in 1974, the implementation of Election Day registration in 1976 and the conversion from the partisan State Elections Board to the nonpartisan Government Accountability Board in 2008. This Board is comprised of six former nonpartisan judges and headed by its Director and General Counsel, who is also the State's Chief Election Official. The Board's statutory charge is to interpret Wisconsin statutes, administrative rules, Federal laws governing election administration and set policies and standards for administering elections in Wisconsin.

The mission of the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board is to enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of the electoral process. The Board directs its energies toward providing for an informed electorate, especially in regard to understanding the election

system. Under the auspices of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, the Board works in collaboration with county and municipal election officials and the public to ensure that Wisconsin's vision is a continuing reality -- a shared vision by all participants in Wisconsin's electoral process -- that elections are open, fair, transparent, and conducted with the highest degree of integrity.

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 provided a unique opportunity to add to Wisconsin's electoral tradition of a strong collaborative partnership between state and local election officials. Wisconsin municipal election officials recruit and train poll workers, maintain voter records, issue absentee ballots, and establish and equip polling places with the required voting equipment. County election officials are responsible for a variety of support functions to assist municipal clerks. County election officials provide a significant contribution in coordinating the work of local election officials to increase efficiency of the delivery of election services. Wisconsin's Government Accountability Board and staff are responsible for providing leadership in election administration by establishing standards ensuring uniformity and safeguarding the vote of all electors.

Funding under the HAVA, and requirements payments for Federal Fiscal Years 2008, 2009, 2010, and future requirements payments will assist Wisconsin and its Government Accountability Board to improve election administration in Wisconsin during the next five years, through 2014.

It is important to note that the 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is not meant simply to capture the $3,947,062 in combined FFY-2008 and FFY-2009 requirements payments. This Plan is developed from a broader and longer-range strategic perspective. It is forward-looking, dynamic and robust to the extent that it will be able to incorporate and absorb foreseeable emerging initiatives over the next five years. Yet, it is also specific enough to address and meet current needs.

The financial support needed for the five-year outlook for achieving the program activities far exceeds the $3,947,062 FFY-2008 and FFY-2009 requirements payments that Wisconsin is currently eligible to receive. Staff estimates the cost to support this five-year plan to be between $17 and $20 million dollars over five years, or about $3.5 million dollars annually. Of this amount, Wisconsin will be required to provide a 5% match, as required by HAVA. Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan is developed and written broadly but specific enough to accommodate additional funds that may be appropriated by the U. S. Congress over the next five years.

Performance goals and measures have been developed in consultation with the Wisconsin Election Administration Council. The implementation strategies, including performance goals, provide measurement standards for each element of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

Each performance goal is a part of a single or composite project activity designed to implement all elements of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan. Each goal is attributable to individual staff members in collaboration with a team of stakeholders and interested parties.

Administration of Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan will be under the general direction and executive sponsorship of the Government Accountability Board's Director and General Counsel, who is also Wisconsin's Chief Election Official. The Elections Division Administrator will oversee daily management, supervision and implementation of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

ENSURING ELECTION INTEGRITY IN WISCONSIN

As part of its mission to ensure the integrity of individual ballots as well as election results in Wisconsin, the Government Accountability Board (Board) continues its commitment to working with municipal and county election officials and local and statewide law enforcement agencies to prevent errors and opportunities for voter fraud and to detect and prosecute cases of illegal voting which may occur.

While empirical evidence made available to the Board has not documented any widespread, organized, or systemic cases of voting by ineligible individuals or of double voting in Wisconsin, the Board has consistently maintained that evidence of any case will be thoroughly investigated and, if the evidence merits it, prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Board staff conducted a survey of the counties' prosecuting attorney offices four months after the 2008 General and Presidential Election. The survey results revealed that a total of six criminal complaints had been filed alleging voter fraud.

The Board recognizes the importance of implementing a comprehensive system that discourages individuals from voting illegally and assists in the detection and prosecution of illegal voting cases. To that end, the Board will continue to pursue and research the following election administration business practices during the five-year term of the Plan:

1. Educate and train local election officials, local and statewide law enforcement, and the public regarding voter qualifications including age, residency, and citizenship.

2. Educate and train local election officials, local and statewide law enforcement, and the public regarding methods of detecting ineligible voters; and the process of referring and monitoring the prosecution of voter fraud and other illegal voting cases.

3. Encourage and ensure the ability of the public to act as election observers and administer an orderly process for challenging the registration or vote of any elector.

4. Notify the former state when a new resident registers to vote in Wisconsin, and research the feasibility and effectiveness of comprehensive comparisons of Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) database with statewide voter lists of neighboring states in detecting duplicate registrations.

5. Regularly audit records related to convicted felons, adjudicated incompetents, deceased persons, and voters who attempt to register or vote in multiple locations and match those records against the SVRS, as well as provide to local election officials, lists of convicted felons whose voting rights have not been restored.

6. Mail postcards to verify addresses of voters who register by mail, through a special registration deputy, or on Election Day at the polling place; and forward information to local prosecuting attorneys when fraud, or an error leading to illegal voting, is suspected.

7. Continue to proactively work with the Wisconsin Department of Justice, District Attorneys, and federal and local law enforcement to share information identified by the agency staff or received by the agency that implicates a violation of Chapter 12, Wis. Stats.

8. Assist law enforcement and prosecutors in specific election fraud and illegal voting cases by providing and interpreting information contained in the SVRS related to an individual's voting history and method of registration, as well as data related to special registration deputies and voters registered through that process.

9. Maintain the Voter Public Access website (https://vpa.wi.gov) which allows law enforcement and the public to obtain information regarding any registered voter for which a date of birth is known.

Through the Board's public education and information strategies, the Board will improve these ongoing outreach efforts to prevent errors, deter potential voter fraud and assure the State's residents that all reasonable and practical steps are being taken to maintain the high level of voter confidence and election integrity for which Wisconsin is known.

Section 1
Title III Requirements and Other Activities

ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

How the State will use the requirements payments to meet the requirements of Title III, and, if applicable under Section 251(a)(2), to carry out other activities to improve the administration of elections.

"Election Administration" is a broad term that refers to the laws, policies, rules and procedures used to conduct elections. The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) was enacted by Congress to make sweeping reforms in the conduct and administration of elections. Wisconsin's accomplishments in meeting the requirements of HAVA have provided a unique opportunity to not only augment the state's electoral tradition, but to strengthen partnerships between state, county and local officials. Wisconsin looks forward to implementing additional reforms that will continue to strengthen voter confidence and enhance the voting experience while streamlining procedures.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

Wisconsin has focused its energies on fulfilling the requirements of HAVA in order to improve the administration of Federal elections as well as elections for all levels of government. For the most part, the requirements of HAVA have been incorporated into State law so that all elections are conducted in the same uniform and nondiscriminatory manner. Listed below are the HAVA requirements with regard to election administration and the progress of the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board toward satisfying those requirements.

Voter Instructions

§ 301(a)(1)(B) – A jurisdiction that uses a paper ballot voting system may meet the requirements of subparagraph (a)(iii) by:

(i) Establishing a voter education program that notifies each voter of the effect of casting multiple votes for an office.
(ii) Providing the voter with instructions on how to correct the ballot before it is cast and counted (including instructions on how to correct the error through issuance of a replacement ballot if the voter was otherwise unable to change the ballot or correct any error).

Wisconsin requires a formal notice called "Voting Instructions and Sample Ballot," also known as the "Type B Notice," to be published or posted in the week before the election. The Type B Notice is also required to be posted at the polling place on Election Day. The notice provides instructions on voting a ballot, defines spoiling a ballot and how to receive a replacement ballot. Wis. Stats. §§ 10.01(2)(b), 10.06.

The Type B Notice for a Partisan Primary instructs the voter to "select the party of his or her choice." The Type B notice will be modified to add a general warning of the effect of casting multiple votes for an office. The Type B Notice does not describe the effect of cross-over voting at a partisan primary. Wis. Stat. §10.02(3)(b)2. However, a separate notice solely for the purpose of advising voters of the effect of cross-over voting at a partisan primary is required. Wis. Stat. § 5.35(6)(b).

Standard Definition of a Vote

§ 301(a)(6) – Each State shall adopt uniform and nondiscriminatory standards that define what constitutes a vote and what will be counted as a vote for each category of voting system used in the State.

Wisconsin Statutes § 5.01(1), provides that "Except as otherwise provided, chs. 5 to 12 shall be construed to give effect to the will of the electors, if that can be ascertained from the proceedings, notwithstanding informality or failure to fully comply with some of their provisions." Wisconsin Statute § 7.50 provides direction with respect to ballot marking scenarios which may be encountered when counting ballots.

In an effort to consolidate and simplify these statutory directions, former State Elections Board staff developed a comprehensive manual entitled "Counting Votes." This manual describes ballot marking scenarios that may occur with both paper hand-count ballots and optical scan ballots, and provides statutory direction for counting the votes in each scenario. Although the manual was published prior to HAVA, it satisfies this requirement.

Provisional Voting

§ 302(a) – If an individual declares that such individual is a registered voter in the jurisdiction in which the individual desires to vote and that the individual is eligible to vote in an election for Federal office, but the name of the individual does not appear on the official list of eligible voters for the polling place or an election official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote, such individual shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot as follows:

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot in that election.

(2) The individual shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at that polling place upon the execution of a written affirmation by the individual before an election official at the polling place state that the individual is:

(A) A registered voter in the jurisdiction in which the individual desire to vote; and
(B) Eligible to vote in that election.

(3) An election official at the polling place shall transmit the ballot cast by the individual or the voter information contained in the written affirmation to an appropriate State or local election official for prompt verification.

(4) If the appropriate State or local election official to whom the ballot or voter information is transmitted determines that the individual is eligible under State law to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall be counted as a vote in that election in accordance with State law.

(5) At the time that an individual casts a provisional ballot, the appropriate State or local election official shall give the individual written information that states that any individual who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under the system established under subparagraph (B) whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted.

(6) The appropriate State or local election official shall establish a free access system (such as a toll-free telephone number or an Internet website) that any individual who casts a provisional ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted.

HAVA requires a state to provide an individual the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot if the individual asserts that he or she is registered, but the voter's name does not appear on the poll list, or an election official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote. Upon written affirmation that the voter is registered and eligible to vote, the individual is permitted to vote a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot is not counted unless the municipal clerk can verify that the individual is registered and eligible to vote in that election.

In 1976, Wisconsin implemented Election Day Registration, and for this reason, the State previously claimed exemption from the provisional voting requirement. If a voter's name does not appear on the poll list, the voter may register at the polling place on Election Day, provided the voter is able to show proof of residence, or use a corroborating witness.

Since the publication of the 2004 Plan, provisional voting has been determined to be appropriate in two scenarios:

1. A first-time Wisconsin voter who has registered by mail, but did not provide the required proof of residence with the application. If the voter cannot provide proof of residence before voting, or register on Election Day using a corroborator, the voter may vote provisionally. Wis. Stat. § 6.97. (Note: This statute does not differentiate between mailed applications or in-person registration.)

2. An elector attempting to register on Election Day who has indicated that he or she has been issued a Wisconsin Driver's License, but cannot or will not provide the Driver's License number. Wisconsin Administrative Code GAB 3.04(2)

Upon casting a provisional ballot, the voter is provided with a "Provisional Voting Information Sheet" which informs the voter of the actions required to ensure that his or her ballot will be counted. The information sheet also advises the voter of methods to determine whether his or her provisional ballot was counted by providing the municipal clerk contact information and the web address of the Government Accountability Board.

Voting Information

§ 302(b)(2) – The appropriate state or local election official shall cause the following voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place on the day of each election for Federal office:

(A) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for that election.

(B) Information regarding the date of the election and the hours during which polling places will be open.

(C) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a vote and how to cast a provisional ballot.

(D) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters under § 303(b).

(E) General information on voting rights under applicable Federal and State laws, including information on the right of an individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated; and

(F) General information on Federal and State laws regarding prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation.

HAVA requires specific information to be posted at each polling place on Election Day. The following information, required by Wisconsin statutes and administrative code, incorporates most of the HAVA posting requirements:

1. Sample ballot and instructions on how to cast a vote (Type B Notice). The ballot itself instructs the elector on the number of candidates the elector is allowed to vote for, per Wis. Stats. §§ 10.01(2)(b), 10.02

2. Notice of Location and Hours of Polling Place (Type D Notice), per Wis. Stat. § 10.01(2)(d)

3. Instructions for Wisconsin Mail-in Registrants and First-Time Voters (GAB-116), per Wis. Stat. § 6.34(2), (3)

4. General Information on Voting Rights under Federal Laws as Applied to Wisconsin Voters (GAB-117), per Wis. Stats. § 5.35(6)(a)2m, 4b

5. Notice of Election Fraud (GAB-111), per Wis. Stats. §§ 5.35(6)(a)2, 12.13(1) and (3)(intro), (d), (f), (g), (k), (L), (o), (q), (r), (u), (v) and (x), 12.60 (1)

6. Contact Information (GAB-118); provides information on contacting the appropriate officials if voting rights are alleged to have been violated, per Wis. Stats. § 5.35(6)(a)4b, 5

7. Voter Qualification Poster (GAB-115), per Wis. Stats. §§ 6.02(1), 6.03

Please see Polling Place Information for future plans to review and explain options for simplifying and consolidating the information required to be posted at the polling place to make it more useful to Wisconsin voters.

Treatment of Ballots Cast as a Result of a Court Order

§ 302(c) – Any individual who votes in an election for Federal office as a result of a Federal or State court order or any other order extending the time established for closing the polls by a State law in effect 10 days before the date of that election may only vote in that election by casting a provisional ballot under subsection (a). Any such ballot cast under the preceding sentence shall be separated and held apart from other provisional ballots cast by those not affected by the order.

Wisconsin treats a post-polling hours ballot in a manner similar to a challenged ballot under Wis. Stat. § 6.95. The ballot is marked with an indication that it is cast pursuant to a court order, but the voter's serial number is not included on the ballot. The ballot is counted, but if the court order is overturned, the ballot can be retrieved and the canvass results changed to reflect the court action. Wis. Stat. § 6.96.

Voter Registration Application

§ 303(a)(5)(A)(i) – An application for voter registration for an election for Federal office may not be accepted or processed by a State unless the application includes:

(I) In the case of an applicant who has been issued a current and valid driver's license, the applicant's driver's license number; or

(II) In the case of any other applicant, the last 4 digits of the applicant's social security number.

§ 303(b)(4)(A) – The mail voter registration form shall include the following:

(i) The question, "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a citizen of the United States.

(ii) The question, "Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether or not the applicant will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day.

(iii) The statement, "If you checked 'no' in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form."

(iv) A statement informing the individual that if the form is submitted by mail and the individual is registering for the first time, the appropriate information required under this section must be submitted with the mail-in registration form in order to avoid the additional identification requirements upon voting for the first time.

§ 303(b)(4)(B) – If an applicant for voter registration fails to answer the citizenship question included on the mail voter registration form the registrar shall notify the applicant of the failure and provide the applicant with an opportunity to complete the form in a timely manner to allow for the completion of the registration form prior to the next election for Federal office (subject to State law).

The Wisconsin Voter Registration Application (GAB-131) has been developed to include the requirements set out above. The GAB-131 also includes the following elements:

1. The question, "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a citizen of the United States. Wis. Stats. §§ 6.02, 6.03, 6.33. Wis. Admin. Code GAB 3.02

   If an elector fails to answer the citizenship question, the registrar shall notify the applicant of the failure and provide the applicant with an opportunity to complete the form in a timely manner to allow for the completion of the registration form prior to the next election for federal office (subject to state law). Wis. Admin. Code GAB 3.03

2. The question, "Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether or not the applicant will be 18 years of age or older on or before Election Day. Wis. Stats. §§ 6.02, 6.03, 6.33. Wis. Admin. Code GAB 3.02

3. The statement, "If you filled in 'No' in response to EITHER of these questions, do not complete this form."

4. A statement informing the individual that if the form is submitted by mail and the individual is registering for the first time, the appropriate information required under this section must be submitted with the mail-in registration form in order to avoid the additional identification requirements upon voting for the first time. Wis. Stat. § 6.34(2)

HAVA Identification

§ 303(b)(1) & (2) – If an individual who has not previous voted in an election for Federal office in the State registers by mail that individual shall be required to:

(i) If voting in person, present to the appropriate State or local election official a current and valid photo identification or a copy of:

- A current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck, or
- Other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.

(ii) If voting by mail, submits with the ballot a copy of a current and valid photo identification, or a copy of:

- A current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck, or
- Other government document that shows the name and address of the voter.

§ 303(b)(3) – Paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a person:

(A) Who registers to vote by mail and submits as part of such registration either:

(i) A copy of a current and valid photo identification,
(ii) A copy of a current:

- Utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck, or
- Government document that shows the name and address of the voter.

(B)
(i) Registers to vote by mail and submits with such registration either:

- a driver's license number; or
- last 4 digits of the individual's social security number; and,

(ii) The information matches with an existing State identification record bearing the same number, name and date of birth as provided in such registration; or

(C) Who is:

(i) Is entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act; or

(ii) Is provided the right to vote otherwise than in person under the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act; or

(iii) Is entitled to vote otherwise than in person under any other Federal law.

Wisconsin Statute § 6.34 includes an identification requirement for:

- First-time voters registering by mail
- Any voter registering after the close of registration (20 days before the election at which the individual intends to vote)
- Any voter registering on Election Day

Each of the above voters must provide "Proof of Residence" before being able to vote. To alleviate the confusion of Wisconsin's "Proof of Residence" requirement and HAVA's "Identification" requirement, Wisconsin's HAVA implementation legislation created one list of "identifying documents that prove residency" that serves both purposes. The list of identifying documents include the HAVA options of a current and valid photo identification or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name and address of the voter. The above voters must either provide a copy of such identifying document with the registration form or present a copy of the identifying document to election officials on Election Day. Wis. Stat. § 6.34.

An absentee voter subject to this requirement may provide a copy of the identifying document as part of the absentee voting process. Local election officials track first-time voters and secure the required identifying document with the absentee ballot if not provided with the registration form. This is done in the time between when the voter registers and Election Day.

HAVA also grants an exemption from the identification requirement if state or local election officials can match the information submitted with an existing state identification record bearing the same number, name and date of birth as provided in the registration. Wisconsin does not recognize the HAVA identification exemption because of the aforementioned consolidation of Wisconsin and HAVA identification requirements.

Wisconsin Statutes do reflect the HAVA identification exemption extended to Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) citizens. Wis. Stat. § 6.34. Furthermore, Wisconsin recognizes the exemption extended to persons voting under the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, although the exemption is not incorporated in state statutes.

Uniformed and Overseas Voter Office

§ 702(1) – The State shall designate a single office which shall be responsible for providing information regarding voter registration procedures and absentee ballot procedures to be used by absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters with respect to elections for Federal office (including procedures relating to the use of the Federal write-in absentee ballot) to all absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters who wish to register to vote or vote in any jurisdiction in the State.

The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board is the single office responsible for providing information regarding voter registration and absentee ballot procedures to be used by UOCAVA voters. The Board staff is in regular contact with the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in order to keep the FVAP Voting Assistance Guide current and accurate. Information with respect to registration and absentee voting requirements and procedures for UOCAVA voters is regularly provided to municipal clerks. Municipal clerks are encouraged to contact the Board or FVAP with concerns or if assistance in serving a UOCAVA voter is needed.

Notification of UOCAVA Application Rejection

§ 707 – With respect to each absent uniformed services voter and each overseas voter who submits a voter registration application or an absentee ballot request, if the State rejects the application or request, the State shall provide the voter with the reasons for the rejection.

Municipal clerks are statutorily required to notify an elector when a registration form is insufficient or if the clerk has reliable information that the proposed elector is not qualified. The clerk shall notify the elector within 5 days, if possible, and request that the elector substantiate the information presented. Wis. Stat. § 6.32(2).

2009-2014 Election Administration Initiatives to be Examined, Reviewed, Explored and Studied over the next Five Years

Having met the requirements of HAVA as delineated in the 2004 Plan, Wisconsin looks forward to enhancing the voting process to benefit both voters and election administrators while recommitting to the Government Accountability Board's mission: To enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of the electoral process.

Working in cooperation with county and municipal clerks, their associated service agencies and in collaboration with the Wisconsin Legislature, the Board will examine, review, explore and study the following options for feasibility if the necessary legislative changes can be made. Each initiative to increase voter access would also be examined for implications for ballot security.

1. Cross-over Voting Instructions

The Type B Notice does not describe the effect of cross-over voting at a partisan primary. Wis. Stat. §10.02(3)(b)2. However, a separate notice solely for the purpose of advising voters of the effect of cross-over voting at a partisan primary is required. Wis. Stat. § 5.35(6)(b). The Type B notice will be modified to consolidate this general warning of the effect of casting multiple votes for an office into the official voter instructions notice.

2. Over-voting Instructions

Information on the right of an elector to cast a provisional ballot, instructions on how to cast a provisional ballot and the consequences of over-voting a ballot will be incorporated into the General Information on Voting Rights Under Federal Laws (GAB-117).

3. Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act Exemption

Wisconsin election officials currently recognize an exemption from proof of residence requirements for indefinitely-confined voters as required by the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act. A legislative change to Wis. Stat. § 6.34 to reflect this federal exemption in state statute is suggested.

4. Early Voting

The Government Accountability Board is examining the feasibility of implementing true early voting in Wisconsin. The objectives of implementing early voting procedures would be to reduce voter waiting time, maintain integrity of the vote-counting process, relieve workload of local elections officials and control costs. Early voting would significantly reduce the need for absentee applications and envelopes. Traditional methods of absentee voting would continue (by mail, hospitalized, military and permanent absentee voting for indefinitely confined electors). Remote early voting for overseas and military electors will also be explored.

Implementation of early voting is not without challenges. Wisconsin would look to extend early voting opportunities uniformly across the state, while preserving the state's long history of municipality-controlled elections. The acquisition of voting machines that can accommodate multiple ballot styles from an entire jurisdiction and electronic poll books, or a workable substitute will be necessary. Additional staff may also be required at the state, county and local levels to implement early voting successfully.

An early voting pilot program is recommended. A pilot program would provide valuable information on strategies that work well in Wisconsin's highly decentralized electoral process and which approaches do not. Pre-testing the early vote concept in select municipalities would also invite voluntary participation by local elections officials and would facilitate cooperation if the program was deployed statewide.

5. Absentee Voting

Since 2000, absentee voting has increased substantially. The expanded utilization of absentee voting is largely due to the extensive outreach by political groups and voter advocates that encourage voters to utilize absentee voting. Wisconsin's "no excuse" absentee voting has also contributed to the popularity of voting by absentee ballot. In the days before the 2008 Presidential Election, Wisconsin municipal clerks experienced unprecedented lines of voters waiting to vote absentee in the clerk's office rather than vote at the polling place. Municipal clerks were forced to delegate other tasks, including other election preparations, to a lower priority in order to timely process mailed absentee ballots and accommodate in-person absentee voters.

The following options will be studied for the purpose of streamlining the absentee voting process and allowing sufficient time for processing absentee ballots, taking into consideration their impact on other voter policies and procedures:

A. Reduce the absentee voting burden experienced by municipal clerks by providing additional time for receiving and processing absentee ballots

Wisconsin law currently provides that a mailed application for absentee ballot must be received by the municipal clerk no later than the fifth calendar day preceding the election at which the voter intends to vote. The deadline for receipt by mail of an application for absentee ballot from military and indefinitely confined electors is the fourth calendar day preceding the election. The deadline for an elector to request and vote an absentee ballot in person is the day before the election. The changes described below would not affect electors for whom extended deadlines apply (military electors away from their residence due to active duty, hospitalized electors and sequestered jurors).

Moving the absentee ballot request deadline up one week or eliminating in-person absentee voting after the fourth calendar day preceding the election would better allow municipal clerks to meet any last minute ballot requests and focus on processing incoming ballots. Changing absentee voting deadlines would also allow municipal clerks time to attend to the last minute details of election preparation, rather than focusing entirely on the absentee voting process in the final, critical days before the election.

B. Examine the implications of eliminating the written application, certificate envelope and/or witness requirements for in-person absentee voting

Currently, before a voter may receive an absentee ballot, he/she must make a written application for a ballot. Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(a). The voted absentee ballot must be sealed in a certificate envelope signed by the voter and a witness who is an adult U.S. Citizen. Wis. Stat. § 6.87(2), (4). Because in-person absentee voting occurs in the clerk's office rather than in some remote unobserved location, some of these requirements may be unnecessary. A closer look at how the elimination of these requirements could impact the right to challenge a voter's eligibility would be required before implementation.

C. Allow a facsimile signature on an absentee ballot request and eliminate the requirement to receive an original application with an original signature in order for the ballot to be counted

Current State statute provides that an absentee ballot may be mailed, faxed or emailed to a voter, if an absentee ballot application has been received and if the application contains the voter's actual signature or facsimile thereof. However, the application with an original signature must be received in order for the ballot to be counted. Wis. Stat. § 6.86(1)(ac). Again, a closer look at how the elimination of

this current requirement could impact the opportunity for voter fraud and ballot security would be required before implementation.

D. Allow the return of the voted ballot by fax or email

Under current Wisconsin law, absentee ballots may be faxed or emailed to voters upon request. However, state statute does not provide for the return of the voted ballot via fax or email; the voted ballot must be returned by mail or personally delivered. Wis. Stat. § 6.87(3)(d). Allowing return of the voted ballot by fax or email would simplify the procedures for voters as well as election officials. It would also reduce turn-around time for the return of ballots, especially for military and overseas voters. Again, a closer look at the deadlines for return of ballots and how the elimination of these requirements could impact the opportunity for voter fraud and ballot security would be required before implementation.

E. Expand the opportunity for all electors, with one request, to receive ballots automatically for all elections for which the elector is eligible to vote

At present, this privilege is only extended to military electors and indefinitely confined electors. Wis. Stats. §§ 6.86(2)(a), 6.865(3), (3m). If the absentee voter fails to return a ballot, the voter would be required to confirm their permanent absentee request via the same procedures that currently apply to an indefinitely confined elector who fails to return a ballot. *See* Wis. Stat. § 6.86(2)(b).

F. Allow solely "vote by mail" instead of utilizing traditional polling places. The use of this option would be limited to small elections the municipal governing body.

G. Explore options for reduced postal rates for ballots sent to "regular" and overseas electors. (Postage pre-paid envelopes are currently available to mail ballots to military electors. Postage pre-paid return envelopes are also provided for military electors.) Wis. Stat. § 6.87(3)(a)

H. Create system to allow all voters to track their absentee ballot status

The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act requires that military and overseas voters be able to track their absentee ballot request and see when their ballot has been received by the appropriate official. (See initiative 6C below.) Further federal legislation is currently pending to provide federal funding to states who choose to expand this tracking requirement to all absentee voters.

Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) currently has the capability to track absentee ballots, but this function is not used by all clerks. The Board would implement an administrative rule requiring tracking of all absentee ballot in the SVRS. The Board would also create a simplified interface to allow clerks, who currently rely on another party to provide SVRS service, to enter absentee ballot information themselves. The Board's staff would modify the Voter Public Access system to allow voters to view the status of their absentee ballot.

6. Polling Place Information

Despite the recent trend towards absentee voting, the majority of Wisconsin voters appear in-person at the polling place to cast their vote. The following options will be studied for the purpose of improving the voter's experience at the polling place on Election Day:

A. Consolidate the many notices required to be posted at the polling place into a single brochure or other document

HAVA requires that specific information be posted at each polling place on Election Day. Wisconsin statutes require the same postings as HAVA, as well as additional information. The number of postings required has become difficult to manage and the Government Accountability Board's staff will study viable options for a solution in response to concerns expressed by municipal clerks.

Consolidating the notices into a brochure which would be available at the polling place or integrating all notices into one large notice are possibilities. Any change to current law concerning posting of information at polling places would require a revision of Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 10. An advisory committee of county and municipal clerks would be utilized to develop and prepare alternate methods of disseminating this information to electors.

B. Expand the geographic area in which an election inspector may serve

Currently, an election inspector must be a qualified elector of the municipality they serve. Wis. Stat. § 7.30(2)(a). In smaller municipalities, this requirement can hinder the recruitment of qualified individuals to serve as election inspectors. If the residency requirement could be expanded to a certain district or county-wide, election inspectors could be drawn from a larger pool and assigned to work at any polling place in the municipality group or county. This would allow clerks a broader selection of inspectors to utilize and would benefit smaller municipalities who have difficulty finding enough inspectors in their own municipalities.

C. Allow the use of Electronic Poll Books in Wisconsin

Electronic Poll Books have been used at polling places in other states with great success. Using Electronic Poll Books would speed up the check-in process and increase accuracy when recording voters. It would also reduce the amount of extra staff and time needed to input voter participation after an election. Finally, Electronic Poll Books have the potential to be an excellent Election Day barrier to possible double voting. However, there are significant technical challenges to implementing Electronic Poll Books including providing internet connectivity to the rural areas of Wisconsin; integrating the Electronic Poll Books with existing networks; integrating the Electronic Poll Book software with the SVRS; and, upgrading the SVRS to handle the increased user load on Election Day.

D. Develop a better support system for election inspectors with Election Day questions

The chief election inspector of a polling place is limited to looking in paper manuals or calling another election official if they have questions. The Government Accountability Board is exploring the possibility of deploying electronic devices to each polling place that would make it easier for an election inspector to quickly find an answer or solution to any given problem. This device would allow the inspector to quickly handle situations which may arise at the polling place and lessen the need to contact the Board or the clerk for assistance.

E. Reduce the number of election inspectors required to administer "curbside voting" to one, if another witness is present

Upon notification that a voter has arrived at the entrance to a building containing a polling place, but is unable to enter the polling place due to a disability, the inspectors may bring a ballot to the voter's location outside of the polling place. When the voter has completed the voting process, the inspectors return the ballot to the polling place for deposit into the voting machine or ballot box. Wis. Stat. § 6.82(1)(a).

The statute implies, by use of the plural "inspectors," that more than one inspector must deliver the ballot to the disabled voter. At no time may the polling place be staffed by less than three inspectors. Wis. Stat. § 7.32. If the polling place is staffed by the minimum number of inspectors, and two inspectors are administering "curbside voting," voting activity in the polling place must cease until the inspectors have returned.

Generally, a friend or relative of the disabled voter has brought the voter to the polling place. Allowing one inspector to administer "curbside voting" as long as another witness is present would accommodate the disabled voter and may allow the voting process inside the polling place to continue without interruption.

7. Voter Registration

While the adoption of Election Day Registration in 1976 made Wisconsin a leader in the area of voter registration, the Internet has made it possible to further expand the availability of voter registration. Further refinement is possible to Wisconsin's existing voter registration processes. The following options (Provisions A-C) will be studied to refine the voter registration process:

A. Allow an individual to register to vote and submit the registration form online during open registration

- If the driver's license number and other information can be validated against the Department of Transportation, the registration form may be completed and submitted electronically.

- A first-time voter in Wisconsin may not use the online method, but must print and complete the registration form, and mail the form and a copy of acceptable proof of residence to the municipal clerk.

B. Move the open registration deadline to more than 20 days before the election

Wisconsin voters can register to vote 365 days a year; however, the election cycle does have different periods with deadlines. The open registration deadline is particularly problematic due to the fact that it is a postmark deadline, so valid voter registrations continue to come in several days after the deadline. Moving the open registration deadline earlier in the election cycle will allow more time for clerks to enter these last minute registrations into the Statewide Voter Registration System before Election Day, while still providing the voter an opportunity to register in-person at the clerk's office or at the polls on Election Day. Another potential solution would be to change the postmark deadline to an actual receipt deadline.

Moving the open registration deadline; however, does affect other deadlines such as absentee voting deadlines. Further examination will be required to ensure that changing this deadline does not create problems complying with other deadlines.

C. Standardize voter verification procedures

Voter registration forms submitted by mail, Special Registration Deputies or those registrations occurring on Election Day are required to be verified by postcard. Persons registering in person in the clerk's office after the close of registration are required to show proof of residence, so verification is not required for those voters. The statutes do not address persons registering in-person in the clerk's office before the close of registration. The Government Accountability Board is also examining electronic means to verify voter addresses to reduce printing and postage costs.

8. Military and Overseas Absentee Voting

Although Wisconsin has already implemented a number of procedures to ensure military and overseas voters have their votes counted, the impending Federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE) necessitates the following changes to Wisconsin's procedures for processing military and overseas absentee voting requests:

A. Develop procedures to send and receive absentee ballot requests and voter registration forms via email and to send blank ballots via email

Wisconsin already sends absentee ballot requests, voter registration forms and blank absentee ballots via email, and receives absentee ballot requests and voter registration forms via email. MOVE requires states to implement standardized procedures for sending and receiving these requests. The Government Accountability Board's (the Board) staff would develop administrative rules standardizing procedures that staff and municipal clerks would follow to send and receive materials via email.

B. Redesign informational materials for overseas and military voters

MOVE requires that the State designate a means of electronically communicating with military and overseas voters. Wisconsin would implement this requirement by designating an email address that all military and overseas voters could use to request forms and information from the Board. MOVE also requires that the designated means of electronic communication be printed on all information sent to military and overseas voters except the ballots. The Board's staff would redesign forms used by military and overseas voters to include the State's designated email address.

C. Create a system to allow military and overseas voters to track their absentee ballot requests

MOVE requires that military and overseas voters to be able to track their absentee ballot request and see when their ballot has been received by the appropriate official. The Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) currently has the capability to track absentee ballot requests, but this function is not used by all clerks. The Board would implement an administrative rule requiring tracking of absentee ballot requests. The Board would also create a simplified interface to allow clerks, who currently rely on another party to provide SVRS service, to enter absentee ballot information themselves. The Board's staff would modify the Voter Public Access system to allow voters to view the status of their absentee ballot.

D. Provide Special Registration Deputy training to Department of Defense personnel

MOVE allows the Secretary of Defense to designate any pay, personnel, or identification office of the Department of Defense as a voter registration agency. If offices on military installations in Wisconsin are designated as voter registration agencies, the Board will work with the Wisconsin Departments of Military and Veterans Affairs to provide the necessary training and information to the Department of Defense staff.

9. Additional Initiatives to be Explored Over the Next Five Years

A. Clarify the definitions of "residency" in Wisconsin Statute

Wisconsin Statutes lack firm definitions of what constitutes "residency." Clarifying residency requirements would make it easier for clerks and voters to determine voter eligibility and which polling location a voter should be assigned.

B. Move up the date of the Partisan Primary to allow more time between the primary and the general election

Wisconsin clerks have very little time between the certification of the Partisan Primary results and ballot printing deadlines for the General Election. Moving the Partisan Primary earlier in the year would allow more time for county clerks to complete the canvass and allow for better quality control and auditing of the Partisan

Primary results. However, moving the Partisan Primary election has far-reaching political and practical implications. Further examination will be required to determine the feasibility of such a large-scale change to the election calendar.

C. Migrate the electronic collection of canvass data from the current canvass application to SVRS

The platform currently used for the canvass process is a legacy application that is past its expected life cycle. It houses candidate and other information used to construct a statewide canvass using data provided by the county canvasses. Using the SVRS for canvassing will ensure that each county clerk is using a uniform method of providing election data quickly and in one step. Uniformity in format will reduce Board's staff time by eliminating the need to manually adapt each county canvass to the correct electronic format, reporting units, office titles, candidate names, etc. Once all the data are collected, Board staff would print reports for each office and party, if required, and audit the reports against the official signed canvass mailed by each county. This process would speed canvass completion by days and also, eventually lead to unofficial election-night results reporting in a more timely manner, which would be made available on the Board's website.

D. Adjust the certification terms of municipal clerks and special registration deputies to match the terms of election inspectors

Election inspectors are appointed for two-year terms beginning January 1 of an even-numbered year and ending December 31 of the following odd-numbered year. Municipal clerk and special registration deputy certification terms run from January 1 of odd-numbered years and end December 31 of the following even-numbered years. For the sake of uniformity, municipal clerk and special registration deputy certification terms should match inspector terms.

E. Improve ballot design support for local election administrators

The Government Accountability Board will develop a ballot assistance program to assist local elections administrators in ballot design. This program will help election administrators minimize voter uncertainty, confusion and errors resulting from ballot design. The Board will examine best practices in ballot design using guidance from the US EAC and other sources.

ACCESSIBILITY
Ensuring Voter Accessibility in the Polling Place

HAVA created an opportunity to take a fresh look at polling place accessibility in the State of Wisconsin. Beginning in 2005, the former Elections Board staff began meeting regularly with representatives from the local disability community in order to promote participation in the voting process. This advisory group is still in place with the present Government Accountability Board. In addition to continuing to meet regularly with the Board's staff, the Accessibility Advisors attend meetings with municipal and county clerks, and join the Board's staff at state conferences to discuss voting issues affecting the disability community.

The Board annually applies for and receives HAVA § 261 funds to ensure access to the election process for persons with disabilities. The HAVA § 261 funds are used to support activities in four areas:

- Accessibility
- Privacy and Independence
- Training
- Information

The Board's staff continues to work with representatives of disability advocacy groups to refine our program of activities to carry out the objectives of HAVA.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

Accessibility of Polling Places

§ 101(b)(1)(G) – Improve the accessibility and quantity of polling places, including providing physical access for individuals with disabilities, providing non-visual access for individuals with visual impairments, and providing assistance to Native Americans, Alaska Native citizens, and to individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.
§ 261(b)(1) – Make polling places, including the path of travel, entrances, exits, and voting areas of each polling facility, accessible to individuals with disabilities, including the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters.

Wisconsin is home to eleven Federally-recognized Native American tribes. The Government Accountability Board does not specifically target Native Americans as a voting group, but does support Tribes with voting-related issues as requested or needed. For example, in 2008, a representative from the Ho-Chunk Nation contacted the Board about promoting voter registration among all Native American tribes in Wisconsin. In response to that request, a special registration deputy training class was coordinated with tribal government.

While Wisconsin has not reached the threshold where the Voting Rights Act § 203 would require election officials to provide alternate language materials, the Board has translated its Voter Registration Application (GAB-131) and its Application for Absentee Ballot (GAB-121) into both the Spanish and Hmong languages. Some municipalities also offer Braille ballots upon request.

Polling Place Accessibility Surveys

The Government Accountability Board continually works with municipalities to improve physical access for voters with disabilities, including those with visual impairments. As elections in Wisconsin are administered at the municipal level; however, the quantity and selection of polling places are determined by the municipality, within general statutory guidelines. Wis. Stat. § 5.25. The Board also requires that each polling place, when initially selected, have an accessibility survey conducted to confirm compliance with accessibility requirements.

In 2006, the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) conducted an audit of the former Elections Board's oversight of polling place accessibility. The LAB determined that many polling places were still not accessible and that the new Wisconsin Government Accountability Board should take affirmative steps to confirm the self-reported accessibility surveys.

Throughout 2008, and including Wisconsin's 2009 Nonpartisan primary and Spring elections, the Board's Accessibility Advisory Group met and refined a new accessibility survey. Board staff field-tested the draft surveys by conducting accessibility evaluations at each scheduled statewide election and evaluated 500 polling places. Staff reached at least one polling place in all 72 Wisconsin counties. Field tests allowed the questions to be refined through actual use and provided insight into why previous surveys had not yielded accurate information about accessibility.

Municipal clerks (or their designees) completed the survey at the 2009 Spring Election. Board staff also conducted surveys at randomly selected polling places. Staff-collected information will be compared with the self-reported surveys and distributed to the surveyed municipalities. A detailed quantitative analysis of all responses is planned for later in 2009. Because municipalities change polling locations periodically or new facilities may be available for use as polling places, ongoing self-report accessibility surveys and Board audits will be necessary in the future.

2006 Polling Place Accessibility Grants

In 2006, the former State Elections Board created a polling place improvement program with HAVA § 261 funds. All municipalities that had initially responded to the polling place accessibility survey and self-identified as non-accessible were sent an application for funding to assist with polling place accessibility improvement projects. The funding was provided via a reimbursement mechanism, with a maximum grant of $1,500 per polling place. Grants were approved for 128 municipalities. As part of the reimbursement process, municipalities needed to provide receipts and verification of project completion.

2009-2014 Accessibility Initiatives to be Examined, Reviewed, Explored and Studied over the next Five Years

Wisconsin is not content with the success of the 2008 accessibility survey revision process. The Government Accountability Board is committed to furthering efforts to achieve full accessibility in all of the State's polling places for all voters. The following are options to be explored during the next five years in order to more effectively serve and support both election officials and members of the disability community:

1. Polling Place Accessibility Survey Audits

   As the features of polling places undergo changes due to weather and age, and locations are discontinued as polling places are consolidated or new facilities become available, further self-reporting accessibility surveys will be required. The Board will continue to administer audits of those self-reported surveys by sending staff to conduct independent compliance assessments of randomly selected polling places.

2. Migrate the Accessibility Survey to an Electronic Format

   The Board will explore the option of migrating the accessibility survey into an electronic format so that it can be completed and submitted electronically. Election officials have responded favorably to other electronic submission methods in the past, and this would eliminate significant printing and postage costs as well as reduce the staff resources required to enter the information from the paper survey into a database for analysis.

3. Quantitative Analysis of Polling Place Accessibility Surveys

   The Board will conduct a quantitative analysis of the data collected from the polling place accessibility surveys conducted during the 2008 pre-tests, and during the Spring 2009 Election. This analysis will allow the Board to better target its resources to the common impediments that individuals with disabilities face at the polling place and provide information to the disability community on the accessibility of Wisconsin polling places.

4. 2009-2014 Polling Place Accessibility Grants

   The Board will offer polling place accessibility improvement grants, similar to the 2006 grant program. These grants would be cost-sharing partnerships with municipalities looking to make further polling place improvements to meet accessibility requirements. This grant program will continue if the need persists and as the availability of funds allows.

5. Increase the Diversity of the Accessibility Advisory Group

   The Accessibility Advisory Group formerly had more representatives from the disability community. The Board is interested in adding representatives from other interested community groups to continue to provide different points of view on the accessibility of elections in Wisconsin.

VOTING SYSTEMS

Ensuring Voting Systems' Integrity and Security

Voting systems need to do exactly what they are intended to do – accurately and completely count all votes that are cast in accordance with electors' preferences. Voting systems must provide disabled electors the opportunity to vote without the need for assistance, in a private and independent manner. Additionally, voting systems must provide the voter the opportunity to correct any error before the ballot is cast and counted.

Under current law, Wisconsin has established a set of standards for the approval of electronic voting systems. Currently, seven accessible voting systems are approved for use throughout the State, for assuring the same access and participation, including privacy and independence, for all voters.

Voting systems play a critical and necessary role in ensuring Wisconsin's open, fair and transparent elections. The various voting systems in Wisconsin are an integral part in maintaining accuracy and confidence in the electoral process in Wisconsin. Uniform and consistently applied standards and strict security protocols ensure the integrity of all voting machines throughout Wisconsin's 1,850 municipalities and 2,822 polling places, and are of the highest priority.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

HAVA established many requirements for voting systems. The deadline for meeting these requirements was January 1, 2006. All voting systems used in Federal elections in Wisconsin since January 1, 2006, complied with the HAVA standards set forth below:

Voting System Standards

§ 301(a)(1)(A) – Each voting system used in an election for Federal office shall:

(i) Permit the voter to verify (in a private and independent manner) the votes selected by the voter on the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted.
(ii) Provide the voter with the opportunity (in a private an independent manner) to change the ballot or correct any error before the ballot is cast and counted (including the opportunity to correct the error through the issuance of a replacement ballot if the voter was otherwise unable to change the ballot or correct any error).
(iii) If the voter selects votes for more than one candidate for a single office, the system must:
   (I) Notify the voter that the voter has selected more than one candidate for a single office on the ballot;
   (II) Notify the voter before the ballot is cast and counted of the effect of casting multiple votes for the office; and
   (III) Provide the voter with the opportunity to correct the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted.

§ 301(a)(1)(C) – The voting system shall ensure that any notification required under this paragraph preserves the privacy of the voter and the confidentiality of the ballot.

§ 301(a)(2)(B) – The voting system shall:

1. Produce a permanent paper record with a manual audit capacity for such system.
2. Provide the voter with an opportunity to change the ballot or correct any error before the permanent paper record is produced.
3. The paper record produced under subparagraph (A) shall be available as an official record for any recount conducted with respect to any election in which the system is used.

§ 301(a)(4) – The voting system shall provide alternative language accessibility pursuant to the requirements of § 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

All voting systems (including optical scan voting systems, direct recording electronic voting systems and electronic ballot marking devices) approved for use in Wisconsin meet the above requirements. The specific statutory requirements are set forth below:

1. Permit the voter to verify in a private and independent manner, the votes selected by the voter on the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted. Wis. Stats. §§ 5.25(4)(a), 5.91(15).

2. Provide the voter with the opportunity in a private and independent manner, to change the ballot or correct any error before the ballot is cast and counted including the opportunity to correct the error through the issuance of a replacement ballot if the voter was otherwise unable to change the ballot or correct any error. Wis. Stats. §§ 5.91(16), 6.80(2)(c).

3. Unless the ballot is counted at a central counting location, it includes a mechanism for notifying a voter who attempts to cast an excess number of votes for a single office that his or her votes for that office will not be counted, and provides the voter with an opportunity to correct his or her ballot or to receive and cast a replacement ballot. Wis. Stat. § 5.91(17).

4. The voting system has the capabilities to provide alternative language accessibility pursuant to the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Wis. Stat. § 5.25(4)(b). Wisconsin is not presently subject to the alternative language requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. However, all voting systems currently approved are able to meet such requirements.

Accessible Voting Systems

§ 301(a)(3)(A) – The voting system shall be accessible for individuals with disabilities, including non-visual accessibility for the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters.

§ 301(a)(3)(B) – The voting system shall satisfy the requirement of subparagraph (A) through the use of at least one direct recording electronic voting system or other voting system equipped for individuals with disabilities at each polling place.

The former Wisconsin State Elections Board approved seven accessible voting systems ensuring the same access and participation, including privacy and independence, for all voters:

- Premier AccuVote TSX
- ES&S AutoMARK
- ES&S iVotronic
- Populex Digital Ballot System
- Sequoia AVC Edge
- Vote-Pad
- VTI DRE Voting System[1]

The former State Elections Board distributed information to all municipal and county clerks describing the approved vendors, the process for acquiring approved voting equipment and the process for receiving reimbursement with HAVA funding for the accessible component for their voting system. Every polling place in the State of Wisconsin had accessible systems in place by the September 12, 2006, Partisan Primary.

The majority of the accessible voting equipment funds have been disbursed. There are municipalities awaiting Federal certification by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (US-EAC) for firmware and software upgrades which will be reimbursed using the HAVA § 251 funds. No voting systems or upgrades to voting systems may be approved for use in Wisconsin until federal certification is issued by the US-EAC, unless the Government Accountability Board exempts the system from strict compliance pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code GAB 7.03(5).

Replacement of Punch Card Voting Systems and Lever Voting Systems

§ 102(a)(2) – Replace punch card voting systems or lever voting systems in qualifying precincts within that State with a voting system that meets the requirements of § 301.

Counties and municipalities that utilized punch card or lever voting systems were required to replace their existing punch card or lever systems with either an accessible touchscreen system (see above) or an approved optical scan voting system from the following list:

- Premier Accuvote OS (precinct count)
- ES&S M100 (precinct count)
- ES&S 150 (central count)
- ES&S 550 (central count)
- Sequoia Insight (precinct count)
- Sequoia/ ES&S Eagle (precinct count)

HAVA § 102 funds were allocated to all eligible municipalities and counties for replacement of punch card and lever voting systems. Local government units were required to purchase the replacement voting equipment with their funds. The eligible municipalities and counties were then reimbursed with HAVA § 102 funds up to the amount allocated for replacement equipment that complied with the Voting System Standards. All replacement systems were in place prior to the first Federal Election in 2006.

[1] Voting Technologies International (VTI) has since gone out of business and its equipment is no longer used in Wisconsin, although it is still certified for use.

Post-Election Voting Systems Audit

§ 301(a)(2)(A) – The voting system shall produce a record with an audit capacity.
§ 301(a)(5) – The error rate of the voting system in counting ballots (determined by taking into account only those errors which are attributable to the voting system and not attributable to an act of the voter) shall comply with the error rate standards established under § 3.2.1 of the voting system standards issued by the Federal Election Commission which are in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Each voting system approved for use in Wisconsin is required to produce a permanent paper record which the voter has verified and has the opportunity to correct before the paper record is produced. Wis. Stat. § 5.91(18). The paper record is the official ballot in the case of a recount or manual voting equipment audit. Wis. Stat. § 5.91(18). Wisconsin utilized a set of standards to determine eligibility for in-State use that incorporated the requirements of HAVA § 301. Wis. Stat. § 5.91, Wis. Admin. Code GAB 7.

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.08(6), the Government Accountability Board audits the performance of each tabulating voting system used in Wisconsin following each general election to determine the error rate of the system in counting ballots that are validly cast by electors. If the error rate exceeds the rate permitted under standards of the Federal Election Commission, the Board will take remedial action to ensure compliance with the standards. The results of these post-election voting systems audits will be reported to the Board in a timely manner.

Ballot and Electronic Voting System Security

The Government Accountability Board adopted rules relating to the security of ballots and electronic voting system security for election officials to follow during pre-election, Election Day and post-election procedures. Wis. Admin. Code GAB 5. The rules provide verification methods to ensure that ballots and electronic voting systems remain secure and tamper-free. The Board approved the rules at its May 5, 2008, meeting.

In order to monitor voting system security compliance, the Board incorporated equipment security audits with the polling place accessibility inspections on Election Day. Staff, in addition to completing the polling place accessibility survey, now must also verify and document voting system security while at the polling place.

2009-2014 Voting Systems' Initiatives to be Examined, Reviewed, Explored and Studied over the next Five Years

During the course of this five-year Plan, the Government Accountability Board will examine, review, explore, study and pursue the following options:

1. Voting Equipment Certification

   Current Wisconsin law requires new voting systems and updates to current voting equipment to achieve US-EAC certification prior to State approval. The US-EAC began

testing voter equipment in December 2006, but has not yet accredited any voting equipment.

Many voting systems are outdated and municipalities would like to update their equipment with currently available performance and component upgrades. Voting equipment manufacturers have already completed the necessary upgrades to the firmware and software for these voting systems. Manufacturers however, cannot offer these enhancements to municipalities in Wisconsin until the upgrades receive approval by the Government Accountability Board. Under current rules the Board may not approve the upgrades until the US-EAC grants accreditation.

Wisconsin Administrative Code GAB 7.03(5) allows the Board to exempt any electronic voting system from the US-EAC accreditation requirement. The Board will create a standing advisory committee to review modifications of currently-approved voting systems.

A charge statement and scope of duties will be developed for the Committee. Duties will include some or all of the following:

1. Advise on the content of the administrative rule for approval of voting machines.
2. Help develop thorough methods of pre-election testing of tabulators.
3. Advise on the security rules of voting equipment.
4. Advise on methods and results of audits of machine transactions, logs and vote counts.
5. Develop means of authentication of software versions, such as hash code checks.
6. Develop a protocol for voting system purchasing to be considered by municipalities.
7. Participate directly in evaluation of equipment being considered for approval by:
   - Conduct a review of Federal certification testing and results.
   - Participate in the State's functional evaluation and testing.
   - Submit written advice on acceptance or rejection.
   - Investigate possible waivers to US-EAC certification for minor upgrades.

Based upon the findings of the committee, the Board may choose the option to waive the US-EAC accreditation. The committee will also assist in the approval process for new voting equipment, determine test methods and review applications.

2. Clarify Definition of Maintenance of Electronic Data

Currently, Wis. Stat. § 7.23(1)(g) requires the transfer of the election data from detachable recording units to an electronic medium. These data may not be destroyed for 22 months after an election regardless of whether the election was federal, state or local. While there

is a Federal requirement to retain all election data from federal elections for 22 months, there is no similar Federal requirement to do the same for state and local elections.

The cost of retaining electronic election data is a major consideration. Municipal and county clerks have expressed concern regarding the cost of transferring election data from memory devices to an electronic medium, such as a CD or hard drive. Most clerks do not have the resources to purchase enough recording devices to maintain each election for 22 months on the original recording device or additional recording devices in the event of a recount or special election. Most clerks have decided to transfer the electronic election data from the original recording device and store that election data on another electronic media (CD or hard drive). However, the cost of transferring the data to an electronic medium that is then stored for 22 months is still prohibitively expensive.

Other than the purpose of preserving election materials for potential legal investigation or academic research, there is no additional state or local purpose for preserving election materials beyond the time required for a recount or election contest. Weighing the costs, there is certainly no compelling reason that has been brought to the Board's attention to preserve election materials for state and local elections for 22 months as required for federal elections.

During the five-year course of this Plan, the Board's staff will work with the Legislature to revise Wis. Stat. § 7.23 to allow clearing and reactivation of voting machine recorders 14 days after any primary and 21 days after any other state or local elections, subject to retention for purposes of a recount or election contest.

3. Re-evaluate Certification of Accessible Equipment

While the accessible systems that are currently approved in Wisconsin allow some individuals with disabilities to vote, they may not all provide full privacy and independence in all aspects of the voting process to individuals with a broad range of disabilities, including individuals with dexterity challenges. Since the former State Elections Board's approval of these systems, there are still many outstanding questions regarding the accessibility of some voting equipment and whether all individuals with disabilities have the same opportunity for participation as other voters. The Government Accountability Board's staff may re-evaluate the devices to determine if they provide "full accessibility." A report of findings and recommendation(s) will be provided to the Board.

4. Uniform Statewide Voting System

Currently, each municipality may determine the voting systems that voters within their jurisdiction will use on Election Day, as long as that system is approved for use. Before any voting system can be approved for use in Wisconsin, the voting equipment manufacturer has to be certified at both the federal and state level. There are three main voting equipment manufacturers predominantly in use in Wisconsin: Elections System & Software, Premier Election Solutions and Sequoia Voting Systems. Many of the voting systems have many similar components and have related functionalities. However, there are unique aspects for each voting system which makes administering elections complex.

In addition, the cost to program and maintain these voting systems is significant and varies depending on the contractual agreements between the municipality and manufacturer.

Mandating a uniform statewide voting system would provide the uniformity and consistency. The Government Accountability Board could potentially purchase the election management software to assist in the programming of the memory devices associated with such voting equipment, minimizing potential programming costs to the municipality. During the next five years, the Board will research other states that assist in the maintenance and programming of voting systems at the state level. In addition, the Board will research the role of universities that assist with the voting systems.

The primary obstacle to adopting a uniform statewide voting system in Wisconsin is the purchasing cost. Depending on the voting system the Board may decide, initial estimates project the cost to purchase uniform voting systems may range from $30,000,000 to $40,000,000. Although the initial costs are daunting, operating and administrative costs would decrease as a result of a uniform statewide voting system.

Secondly, the Board currently does not have the statutory authority to mandate a uniform voting system. Wis. Stat. § 5.40, provides that a governing body or board of election commissioners may adopt and purchase voting machines or electronic voting systems for use in any ward in the municipality at any election. All voting systems in use in Wisconsin are required to be approved by the Board. However the ultimate purchasing determination is made by the municipal governing body. To issue such order would require a legislative change, granting authority to the Board to determine what voting systems would be used in Wisconsin. The Board, however, will explore, study, review and examine the feasibility of developing a uniform protocol for voting systems purchase, to be considered by municipalities.

An alternative option would be to mandate a particular type of voting system: direct record electronic or optical scan with ballot-marking devices, but not mandate a particular vendor. While this option does not produce the cost-savings of a vendor-specific uniform system, it may simplify election procedures.

STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION DATABASE

Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System

Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) is more than just a list of voters; it is the heart of election management, administration and election business practices in the State of Wisconsin. The SVRS helps to ensure accurate, complete and high quality voter data, and is used as a tool by county and municipal election officials to manage elections, voter records, address ranges and office holders. Additionally, the SVRS provides the public with access to voter information, voting history, polling locations, sample ballots for upcoming elections and information on provisional ballots.

Efficient election management relies upon a strong, well-maintained infrastructure. Continuous updates and upgrades are essential to maintaining clean and accurate data in Wisconsin's SVRS. Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan assumes continuation of the current SVRS software package and infrastructure arrangements. An influx of new Federal funds to keep this system operational is critical to its continued use and utility. Over the course of this five-year Plan, the Government Accountability Board will look into other voter database systems and options that could better suit election officials and electors of Wisconsin. Any new voter database will perform the same kinds of functions that the current system does, presumably, in a more efficient and effective manner. If, during the course of the five years of the Plan, a new voter database is purchased, it should not be viewed as a material change to this five-year Plan.

As technology continues to improve, new initiatives and upgrades to the current system are required to provide election officials the tools they need in order to ensure Wisconsin residents that elections throughout the state remain open, fair and transparent, and performed with the highest degree of professional integrity.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

Computerized Statewide Voter Registration List

§ 303(a)(1)(A) – The State shall implement, in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner, a single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive computerized statewide voter registration list defined, maintained, and administered at the State level that contains the name of every legally registered voter in the State and assigns a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the state, and includes the following:

i. The computerized list shall serve as the single system for storing and managing the official list of registered voters throughout the State.

ii. The computerized list contains the name and registration information of every legally registered voter in the State.

iii. Under the computerized list, a unique identifier is assigned to each legally registered voter in the State.

iv. The computerized list shall be coordinated with other agency databases in the State.

v. Any election official in the State, including any local election official, may obtain immediately electronic access to the information contained in the computerized list.

vi. All voter registration information obtained by any local election official in the State shall be electronically entered into the computerized list on an expedited basis at the time the information is provided to the local official.

vii. The chief State election official shall provide such support as may be required so that local election officials are able to enter information as described in clause vi.

viii. The computerized list shall serve as the official voter registration list for the conduct of all elections for Federal office in the State.

The Government Accountability Board has addressed each of the above HAVA requirements. Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) has been used for recording voter registration information and printing voter poll lists as of the Spring 2006 election cycle for 21 counties and statewide since the 2006 Partisan Primary. Continued implementation of upgrades and required maintenance is necessary in order to remain in compliance with HAVA and provide local election officials and Wisconsin voters with an accurate and reliable voter registration and election management system.

List Maintenance

§ 303(a)(2)(A) – The appropriate State or local election official shall perform list maintenance with respect to the computerized list on a regular basis as follows:

(i) If an individual is to be removed from the computerized list, such individual shall be removed in accordance with the provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

(ii) For the purposes of removing names of ineligible voters from the official list of eligible voters:

(I) The State shall coordinate the computerized list with State agency records on felony status; and

(II) The State shall coordinate the computerized list with State agency records on death.

§ 303(a)(2)(B) – The list maintenance performed under subparagraph (A) shall be conducted in a manner that ensures that:

(i) The name of each registered voter appears in the computerized list;

(ii) Only voters who are not registered or who are not eligible to vote are removed from the computerized list; and

(iii) Duplicate names are eliminated from the computerized list.

§ 303(a)(4) – The State election system shall include provisions to ensure that voter registration records in the State are accurate and are updated regularly, including the following:

(A) A system of file maintenance that makes a reasonable effort to remove registrants who are ineligible to vote from the official list of eligible voters. Under such system, registrants who have not voted in 2 consecutive general elections for Federal office shall be removed from the official list of eligible voters, except that no registrant may be removed solely by reason of a failure to vote.

(B) Safeguards to ensure that eligible voters are not removed in error from the official list of eligible voters.
§ 303(a)(5)(B)(i) – The chief State election official and the official responsible for the State motor vehicle authority shall enter into an agreement to match information in the database of the statewide voter registration system with information in the database of the motor vehicle authority to the extent required to enable each such official to verify the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registration.

The Government Accountability Board and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT), Division of Motor Vehicles have an agreement to compare data to verify the accuracy of voter records. Wisconsin's HAVA Check Interface functionality allows for cross-checking voter data with the DOT, Social Security Administration database, Department of Corrections convicted felon lists and Department of Health Services deceased persons records. The HAVA Check Interface became operational on August 6, 2008. Retroactive cross-checking of voter data with the Department of Transportation or Social Security Administration for voters registered from January 1, 2006, through August 5, 2008, will be completed by December 31, 2009.

Duplicate voter matching is also functional in SVRS, and is used daily by local election officials to eliminate duplicate records from the official registration list. The Board completed the State and HAVA required list maintenance for voters not voting in two consecutive general elections in May 2009, in accordance with strict guidelines and safeguards approved by the Board on January 4, 2009.

Security Measures

§303(a)(3) – The appropriate State or local official shall provide adequate technological security measures to prevent the unauthorized access to the computerized list.

Detailed security protocols and procedures, which include secure access servers, security certificate requirements and personal workstation minimum specifications have been in place since the inception of SVRS, and will continue.

2009-2014 Statewide Voter Registration System's Initiatives to be Examined, Reviewed, Explored and Studied over the next Five Years

1. Required Regular Maintenance of SVRS Software and Infrastructure

The Statewide Voter Registration System's (SVRS) source code is extremely complex and requires a tremendous amount of regular maintenance to keep it up and running for the over 2,000 total SVRS users (election officials at the state, county and municipal levels and their staff) across the state. Like any piece of software, glitches and bugs that cause outages, temporary service delays and slow performance must be dealt with as they arise; SVRS is no exception. During peak election cycle periods, the need for continuity of service from both the software and infrastructure is absolutely critical to the printing of voter poll lists, the processing of absentee ballot applications, address range listing reports, registration lists, death/felon/duplicate/DOT matching, post-election participation audits and double-voting checks.

Retaining advanced, experienced software developers and database administrators who possess the required technical skill-sets that are necessary to keep the SVRS functional is costly. The renewal of the software licenses required for 1,000 concurrent SVRS users is an additional infrastructure cost. During the course of this five-year plan, the Government Accountability Board, in consultation with the Wisconsin Legislature, intends to explore alternatives for hosting the SVRS infrastructure.

2. Further Implementation and Expansion of Current SVRS Functionality

The current Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) contains modules that are functional, but have not been implemented to the fullest potential. As more SVRS functionalities are "turned on" and implemented, the cost for maintenance and monitoring increases. Newly implemented functionality of the SVRS will also require in-person and online training for election officials.

A. Modify Voter Public Access (VPA) to Provide Expanded Voter Information

To provide the highest quality data to voters and the general public, implementing expanded functionality to the VPA portion of SVRS is needed. With planned modifications to the current VPA interface, voters will be able to:

- View the results of polling place accessibility surveys for all locations, plus any details, special instructions for voting at a particular location and directions to the polling place.
- Review the status of an absentee ballot request including when a request was received, when the ballot was sent to the voter, when it was received at the local election official's office and whether the absentee ballot was counted.
- Have a more accurate picture of voter history and the type of ballot cast in a particular election.
- View more complete information regarding the status of a provisional ballot.

B. Migrate Electronic Collection of Canvass Data from the Current Application to SVRS

The Government Accountability Board's staff has begun negotiations and planning for converting the current manual canvassing process to a streamlined electronic process through the SVRS. Moving to an electronic and automated process will make it easier for election officials to compile canvass results. This migration will also reduce the Board staff resources required to complete the statewide canvass in the weeks following the election. Swift and accurate reporting of results furthers the primary goal of making elections open, fair and impartial. This feature will eventually also lead to the Board providing unofficial, election-night results on its website.

C. Testing of Redistricting Functionality in SVRS

The Government Accountability Board's staff has begun preparations for mandatory statewide redistricting due to the decennial census. SVRS contains some functionality to assist with defining district boundaries, manage the transfer of voters from one district to another, verify district boundaries against voter addresses and automate the notification to voters of new districts. The current functionality may or may not be sufficient to accomplish this monumental task. Once further planning and preparation begins, upgrading and testing of the SVRS will be necessary to accomplish the redistricting within the tight statutory timeframe. Board staff has initiated consultation with the Legislature's Technology Service Bureau to discuss opportunities and possibilities for collaborating on the redistricting and related initiatives, and this collaboration will continue.

3. Upgrades, Improvements and Additions to Current SVRS Software Package

To facilitate newly planned initiatives, and enhance current business practices over the next five years, significant improvements and additions to the current SVRS are necessary. New functionality of the SVRS will also require in-person and online training for election officials. Listed below are the known planned upgrades, improvements and additions to the SVRS:

A. Upgrade Database Indexing and Improve Source Code

While functional, and used for elections since 2006, the Government Accountability Board continues to receive complaints about the overall performance of SVRS, the single most reported complaint is that SVRS runs extremely slow at times, especially during peak election cycle times when speed and efficiency are the most important to effective election administration. Basic searches of voter records and opening specific sections of the application, such as district information, can be very sluggish and frustrating when trying to complete the many election administration tasks required in the SVRS. Upgrading and improving database indexing and modifying the source code in areas that run slowly are needed to assist election officials in completing routine business practices.

B. Automate the HAVA Check Interface

Currently, conducting HAVA interface checks takes an unnecessary number of steps. Moving to a more automated, background stored procedure will save election officials time and effort while working in the SVRS.

C. Streamline Absentee Business Processes

The absentee functionality in the SVRS, while improved over the years, still produces a large number of complaints due to its complexity and potential for user error. One of the main reasons many of municipal and county users choose not to use the absentee functionality in SVRS for tracking purposes is that it is

unnecessarily complex. Streamlining the absentee process in the SVRS would promote more usage and improve absentee reporting (more complete and accurate absentee data) on a statewide basis. Improving the absentee functionality will also help election officials more effectively track and report on UOCAVA voters.

D. Streamline Other Business Practices

Further refinement and automation of current routine tasks such as generating and exporting voter poll lists, identifying voter record matches and recording voter participation would alleviate some of the most common "system usage" complaints associated with the SVRS.

E. Upgrade Reporting Functionality

The reporting functionality in the SVRS must be upgraded to make it more user-friendly, including much needed flexibility in creating customized reports for individual jurisdictions. The Government Accountability Board intends to explore the feasibility of upgrading to an entirely different report writing software for voter and election data to help simplify the report running process. The current reporting model is inconsistent and has been difficult to use at times.

If the Board chooses to keep the current report functionality, it will need to standardize data elements, naming conventions of fields and report views to make the reports more useful and easier to use. The capability for users to create a customized report is needed as it is difficult to provide a "one-size-fits-all" report for over 2,000 SVRS users.

F. Modify SVRS to Accommodate Early Voting

If early voting proposals are adopted in Wisconsin, it will directly affect the SVRS. Changes and new functionalities would have to be developed and implemented to track a voter's registration, provide a watermark on the poll list to indicate ballots cast and track voter participation in the election. Other tracking and management of the early voting process would also be integrated into the SVRS.

G. Modify SVRS to Accommodate Electronic Poll Books

The use of electronic poll books will also require upgrades to both the software and infrastructure of the SVRS. Real-time, online voter registration at the polls would streamline the current Election Day registration practices in Wisconsin, as well as reduce the potential for voter fraud. Electronic poll books would also reduce the post-election workload of election officials recording voter participation, updating voter records for name and address changes and entering new applications. Computers and connectivity at every polling location in Wisconsin would be required, as well as additional training for election officials on how to use these new tools.

H. Incorporate Existing Election Day Reports in the SVRS

The Government Accountability Board will explore the feasibility of electronic databases to track the current GAB-104 form (Inspectors' Statement) to compile and analyze incidents on Election Day and to track ballot and electronic voting equipment security.

I. Continue Integration of the Wisconsin Election Data Collection System (WEDCS) with the SVRS

The Government Accountability Board will seek to continue integrating the election and registration data provided through the WEDCS with the SVRS to streamline reporting and reduce the amount of information requested from county and local election officials.

J. Modify SVRS to Accommodate Internet-Based Voter Registration

The Government Accountability Board is currently exploring internet-based voter registration. The SVRS would need to be modified to accommodate data entry into a web-based form that interfaces with the current database. Internet-based voter registration would reduce the data entry workload of election officials. Statutory changes would be needed to allow for this new method of registration.

Section 2
Distribution of Requirements Payments

How the State will distribute and monitor the distribution of the Requirements Payments to units of local government or other entities in the State for carrying out the activities described in Section 1 of the State plan, including a description of the criteria to be used to determine the eligibility of such units or entities for receiving the payment; and the methods to be used by the State to monitor the performance of the units or entities to whom the payment is distributed, consistent with the performance goals and measures adopted under Section 8 of the State Plan.

The State of Wisconsin did not distribute any Requirements Payments to local government. Instead, through staff capacity building, Wisconsin provides infrastructure and business operations' support to local government to implement the requirements of HAVA. The cost for development and implementation of the Statewide Voter Registration System along with the acquisition of voting systems that comply with HAVA requirements, in addition to personnel costs, exceeded the amount of Federal funds available for Requirements Payments.

Wisconsin uses the Requirements Payments for election administration infrastructure rather than passing through funds to local government. Wisconsin will continue this practice with receipt of FFY-2008, FFY-2009, FFY-2010, and any further Requirements Payments.

Section 3
Voter Education, Election Official Education and Training, and Poll Worker Training

How the State will provide for programs for voter education, election official education and training, and poll worker training which will assist the State in meeting the requirements of Title III.

A. Voter Education, Information and Outreach

A well informed electorate is an electorate that actively participates in the electoral process to ensure, maintain and advance democracy. Public education, information and outreach efforts benefit all – the general population, the voting age population and electors who exercise their right to vote. In Wisconsin, public education, information and outreach efforts at all levels of government promotes understanding and confidence in the democratic process; encourages participation; makes registration, voting and other processes more efficient; and helps ensure adherence to the law.

Between 2009 and 2014, Wisconsin, through its Wisconsin Government Accountability Board, will develop a comprehensive public education, information and outreach program initiative for the purpose of increasing awareness. The intent is to expand the breadth, level, depth and scope of outreach to the public and specific to voter populations that are typically under-served. A variety of methods, approaches and strategies will be pursued.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

General Voter Education

§ 101(b)(1)(C) – Educate voters concerning voting procedures, voting rights, and voting technology.

Wisconsin has provided information to the public about how to vote (registration, absentee ballots, polling place rules, etc.) in paper and electronic formats. The former State Elections Board website was redesigned in 2005 and contains almost all the information the Government Accountability Board and the former State Elections Board has ever published. "Voter Information" is a distinct section of the website which contains relevant information to electors including instructions on how to register to vote, how to request an absentee ballot and what to expect on Election Day. The Board's website is currently the only place where the state provides information to the public about voting technology.

Toll-Free Hotline

§ 101(b)(1)(H) – Establish toll-free telephone hotlines that voters may use to report possible voting fraud and voting rights violations, to obtain general election information, and to access detailed automated information on their own voter registration status, specific polling place locations, and other relevant information.

The Government Accountability Board established a toll-free hotline in 2004 and promotes the number with its general contact information. The hotline may be used to obtain election information, but not via an automated process. The Board also developed the Voter Public Access (VPA) website in early 2008, which pulls data from the SVRS application to provide automated information like registration status, location of polling places, a sample ballot and other relevant election information.

Information to Individuals with Disabilities

§ 261(b)(2) – Provide individuals with disabilities and other individuals described in paragraph (1) with information about the accessibility of polling places, including outreach programs to inform the individuals about the availability of accessible polling places and training election officials, poll workers, and election volunteers on how best to promote the access and participation of individuals with disabilities in elections for Federal office.

The current Government Accountability Board website was reorganized in 2008 to make navigation easier, and will undergo further updates over the course of this five-year Plan to make it more accessible. Currently the Board has a variety of means by which voters with disabilities may make contact: 711, TTY, Voice, ASCII, fast ASCII, Speech to Speech, and Spanish to Spanish.

The VPA website is also a key resource for individuals with disabilities to find information about the accessibility of their polling place. SVRS does not contain current polling place accessibility information, but once the 2009 accessibility surveys are processed, the Board will make the information available through VPA and other channels.

Information to Voters About Paper Ballot Voting Systems

§ 301(a)(1)(B) – A jurisdiction that uses a paper ballot voting system may meet the requirements of subparagraph (a)(iii) by:

(i) Establishing a voter education program that notifies each voter of the effect of casting multiple votes for an office.

(ii) Providing the voter with instructions on how to correct the ballot before it is cast and counted (including instructions on how to correct the error through issuance of a replacement ballot if the voter was otherwise unable to change the ballot or correct any error).

While Wisconsin does provide some instructions for the public in this area through local election officials, the Board will improve on this effort over the next five-year period by expanding public education materials which instruct Wisconsin voters about voting procedures.

Free Access System for Provisional Ballot Status Information

§ 302(a)(5)(B) – The appropriate State or local election official shall establish a free access system (such as a toll-free telephone number or an Internet website) that any individual who casts a provisional ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted.

Wisconsin fulfilled this requirement with the creation of the Elections Division's Voter Public Access (VPA) website in early 2008, which is linked to live data in Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS).

2009-2014 Voter Education, Information and Outreach Initiatives to be Examined, Reviewed, Explored and Studied over the next Five Years

The Government Accountability Board will produce and disseminate public education materials through a variety of media and mediums in order to reach state residents before and during elections. Those media may vary depending on the length or extent of a public education campaign but will include brochures, videos, newspapers, the internet and social networking sites. Any information that can be made available in an electronic format will be posted to our website. The Board will improve and expand its accessibility, through the creation of all media, by translating its materials into multi-lingual languages as required, and large-print font where possible. In order to get voting information in the hands of all electors, the Board will disseminate voter education materials through partnerships with non-profit agencies, social networks and media.

Working with the Wisconsin Election Administration Council (WI-EAC), Board staff has solicited comments from interested parties and local election officials, and through other stakeholder groups, and developed a list of voter education topics which will be addressed through expanded outreach strategies:

1. Absentee Voting in Wisconsin

   The Government Accountability Board will create a section of its website to house all absentee voting materials. The section will likely be divided into subsections for regular absentee voters, military voters away/not away, overseas voters and indefinitely confined voters. Clerks and voters would find the appropriate instructions, envelopes, applications and sample ballots, applicable to the individual voter, all in one location.

2. Accessibility

   The Board will create public education materials about accessibility in Wisconsin elections which include accessible polling places, curbside voting, accessible voting equipment and explicit rights under HAVA. While Wisconsin has fulfilled its HAVA-related requirements regarding polling place accessibility, a comprehensive public education product about voters with disabilities can serve to reinforce the State's commitment to allowing all voters to vote privately and independently in the polling place.

3. Election Day

   The Board will create public education materials about Election Day in Wisconsin which include how to file a complaint, prohibitions on electioneering, a synopsis of Election Day, the process to challenge a voter's eligibility, emergencies and contingencies, required notices and signage, polling hours, the presence of observers

and news media and permissible uses of the polling place on Election Day. While information about Election Day is available in many places for Wisconsin voters, the Board will develop public education materials that address several Election Day topics in a single comprehensive unit.

4. High School Students and Voting

   The Board will create public education materials about high school students and voting in Wisconsin, which will include the requirement for voter registration to be available in high schools, the benefits of high school poll workers and other topics pertaining to young voters/poll workers. Local election officials have specifically requested information targeted at high school students in the above-listed areas. The State will cover these combined topics in one brochure, web page or other media to address the needs of young voters.

5. How to be a Poll Worker (Election Inspector)

   The Board will create public education materials about how to be a poll worker in Wisconsin, which include duties, eligibility, training, compensation, hours, polling places, benefits, Chief Election Inspectors and statutory provisions for service as a poll worker. While the Election Official Education & Poll Worker Training portion of this plan covers training for poll workers (election inspectors), there is a need for comprehensive, explanatory materials for state residents potentially interested in serving as poll workers.

6. How to Use Voting Equipment

   The Board will create public education materials about how to use voting equipment in Wisconsin, which include paper ballots counted by hand, touch-screen equipment and other accessible equipment, paper ballots counted by optical scan equipment, and requirements for security and accessibility of voting equipment. While voting equipment varies across Wisconsin, a general purpose review of various types of voting equipment may be produced to assist voters in all areas.

7. Partisan and Non-Partisan Elections

   The Board will create public education materials about the differences between Partisan and Non-Partisan elections in Wisconsin which include Partisan versus Non-Partisan offices, ballot-status parties and independent candidates, Wisconsin's open partisan primary system, straight-party voting and Non-Partisan voter registration. Voters may be confused by Wisconsin's system of spring and fall elections which separate Non-Partisan elections from open partisan primaries, where voters may participate in any party's primary.

8. Voter Confidence and Election Security

   The Board will create public education materials about voter confidence and election security in Wisconsin which include ballot security, canvass procedure, confidential

voter listings, prohibitions on electioneering, election observers, the procedure for challenging a voter, election official training requirements, electronic voting equipment security, the confidentiality of voter data and the transparency of the election process. Board staff fields a variety of questions regarding election security issues during every election cycle. A web page, brochure or other materials may be produced to address these issues comprehensively.

9. Voter Preparedness

The Board will create public education materials that will prepare voters on what they should know and can expect when voting on Election Day. Topics will include voter rights, how to register to vote, how to vote early by absentee, how to use voting equipment, and how to locate a polling place location. While information about pre-election day preparedness is available in many places for Wisconsin electors, the Board will develop further public education materials that address many potential voter questions in a single comprehensive publication.

10. Voter Registration

The Board will create public education materials about voter registration in Wisconsin which include how to register to vote, voter eligibility, the additional requirements for Late/Election Day Registration, Special Registration Deputies, student registration, the Statewide Voter Registration System, transferring a registration to a new name or new address, verification of voter registrations and periodic voter record maintenance. A voter registration brochure may be developed to group all such information in one, easily accessed medium.

11. Voter Rights and Responsibilities

The Board will create public education materials about voter rights and responsibilities in Wisconsin which include absentee voting, early voting, provisional voting, voter registration, when voters are ineligible and how those rights may be restored, options for voters with disabilities, curbside voting, accessible voting equipment and updating current voter data. Wisconsin currently does not have a comprehensive listing of the rights and responsibilities of voters.

B. Election Official Education and Poll Worker Training

Wisconsin's election partners – county, municipal and school district clerks, chief and regular election inspectors, special registration deputies, special voting deputies, tabulators, greeters and canvass board members – are entrusted with the responsibility of conducting open, fair and transparent elections. The Government Accountability Board is responsible for providing the education, training and other resources needed to support these partners in managing and implementing their election duties.

The Board recognizes that qualified and properly trained election officials enhance the high quality and integrity of Wisconsin's elections by improving voter data, providing current and accurate information and carrying out elections in an efficient manner. The result of

thorough election official training is that voters are confident and supportive of Wisconsin's election process, and are encouraged to participate and become more actively involved.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

General Election Official Training

§ 101(b)(1)(D) How the State will provide for programs for election official education and training, and poll worker training.

The Government Accountability Board regularly conducts information and training meetings at various locations in the state for county and municipal clerks and other election officials. The Board has implemented the following statutory requirements for initial election official training and subsequent recertification:

1. Chief Inspectors

Wisconsin Statute § 7.30(6)(b) requires that a chief inspector be certified by the Board. Wis. Stat. § 7.31(4), provides for a basic training class (baseline) in order to be initially certified for the term. Training topics covered include pre-election preparations, voter qualifications, Election Day registration, confidential electors, counting ballots and the absentee ballot procedure.

2. Municipal Clerks

Wisconsin Statute § 7.15(1m) requires that all municipal clerks attend a Board sponsored training class at least once every two years. This class is the 3-hour Municipal Clerks Core Curriculum Training class (MCT Core) and certifies the clerk to conduct an election.

Board staff, partnered with a team of municipal and county clerk "trained-trainers," held over 125 MCT Core classes, moving toward a goal of certifying 100% of the 1,850 municipal clerks mandated to take training. Wisconsin currently experiences between 15%-25% municipal clerk turnover rate annually; consequently, MCT Core training classes are offered before the spring and fall elections for any new clerks.

The Board requires clerks to submit documentation reporting the type, date and number of hours of approved election training they have received. Board's staff tracks training hours using the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) and notifies clerks and the heads of their governing bodies when they are considered noncompliant with state training requirements.

3. Election Inspectors

Wisconsin Statute § 7.315(1)(b) requires that all election inspectors receive training at least once every two years from the municipal clerk. Currently, there is no specific prescribed curriculum or length of training required by the state.

4. Special Registration Deputies

Wisconsin Statute § 6.26(2)(am) allows a qualified elector of Wisconsin to apply to the Board to be appointed as a Special Registration Deputy (SRD) for the purpose of registering electors of any municipality in Wisconsin during periods of open registration.

In 2008, Board staff trained approximately 1,500 statewide SRDs and partnered with a number of interested community and political organizations. These election officials registered over 140,000 voters, which accounted for approximately 14% of all registrations during the 2008 election year.

5. Continuing Education Requirements for Recertification

Under Wisconsin Administrative Code GAB 11.03(1), chief election inspectors are required to accumulate a total of six hours of election education training per term for recertification. Current methods of achieving recertification include: Board-approved training with the municipal or county clerk and selected WisLine teleconference sessions given by Board staff.

Wisconsin Administrative Code GAB 12.03(2) requires that municipal clerks accumulate a total of six hours of election education training per election cycle to recertify for the following cycle. Approved methods of training include SVRS classes, Web-Based Election Training System (WBETS) modules or Baseline Chief Inspector training, among others.

Eligible statewide SRDs that wish to be reappointed for a new term must pass a performance review and submit the proper documentation to the Board before they may be recertified as a statewide SRD. They also agree to take an additional 2-hour SRD training class by July 2010 (for the current 2009-2010 term).

Board staff have worked with Wisconsin's Election Administration Council to evaluate election official training needs. This partnership has identified a need for alternative delivery methods for election official and election staff training to expand training opportunities and augment current schedules.

6. Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) Users

The Board will continue to provide SVRS training to new and current users of the system. As new functionalities are developed, SVRS staff will provide advanced and specialized training in election management, absentee processes and HAVA-required interfaces to allow users to work with "live" data and apply what they have learned in a classroom setting under the guidance of an experienced SVRS trainer.

Board staff has migrated some training, business processes and practices to web-based electronic format. A close collaboration between Board staff, municipal and county clerks and the University of Wisconsin-Extension's Division of Continuing Education, Outreach & E-Learning developed and launched the Web-Based Election Training

System (WBETS) in February 2008. This format provides SVRS users with the opportunity to take online training courses, download manuals, print step-by-step instructions for common SVRS tasks, watch video demonstrations and put their knowledge into practice with interactive SVRS simulations.

In June 2008, the Board made additional online training opportunities available to local election officials before the HAVA-Check interface functionality was launched. Clerks were trained on the business process and interface functionality in SVRS through a robust curriculum available on the Board's WBETS site. Clerks will continue to extensively use the site for new training and as a refresher.

The HAVA Interface training sessions for users of SVRS include step-by-step guides, demonstration videos and interactive lessons for hands-on learning. Clerks who do not use SVRS are asked to complete the first two lessons of the curriculum to at least learn the business process. Clerks are able to post questions and view the answers on the Clerks' Forum found on the main menu. The online curriculum is available on-demand to clerks for training or a refresher course. Board staff will continue to offer classroom-based HAVA Reports training to complement and enhance the WBETS HAVA Interface training available on the website.

The Board recently created an online database – the Wisconsin Election Data Collection System (WEDCS) - where municipal clerks can enter their GAB-190 Form information. The GAB-190 Form is an election statistics report that each clerk must complete following each election, within 30 days. The WEDCS has allowed clerks to move away from paper and enter information online, resulting in faster processing of election statistics for the public. The training on the system was developed by Board staff, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Extension's Division of Continuing Education, Outreach & E-Learning, and is housed in the WBETS site to teach municipal clerks how to use the system and enter their data.

Accessibility Training for Election Officials

> § 261(b)(2) – How the state will provide individuals with disabilities with information about the accessibility of polling places, including the availability of these polling places and training election officials, election inspectors and election volunteers on how best to promote access and participation of individuals with disabilities in elections.

The Board has developed and made available on its website the video "Access to Voting –Access to Democracy" to ensure that every eligible voter, regardless of ability, has access to the election process and to help election workers become more aware of needs of citizens with disabilities. Board staff will update the video, distribute it to state and community organizations, and make the updated version available on the Elections Division website.

Over the course of this five-year Plan, the Government Accountability Board will take a more proactive role in assisting local election officials with recruiting election inspectors with disabilities.

2009-2014 Election Official Education and Poll Worker Training Initiatives to be Examined, Reviewed, Explored and Studied over the next Five Years

1. Migrate Existing Training Material to Other Formats

The Government Accountability Board will create training in diverse formats to ensure that training is consistent, current and uniform across the state. A training program of this type for poll workers will be developed in a DVD/VHS delivery format and administered locally by the municipal clerks. Municipal clerks may select from training sessions that are targeted to experienced election inspectors as well as new election inspectors.

The Board plans to develop and provide alternative types of training available on the WBETS for basic certification (Baseline Chief Inspector and Municipal Clerk Core Training) and recertification to expand training opportunities, offer additional delivery systems and broaden its training service area for election officials and election staff.

The Board plans to utilize a variety of training development strategies to address generational differences in the learning styles of election officials and the technologies clerks and other election officials have available to receive training. Existing materials will be converted to flexible online formats, with the ability to provide real-time training remotely through an internet connection.

The Board plans to develop and implement a multi-year training project to give clerks and other election officials continuous, on-demand training opportunities. Among the desired features of the training development project are:

- An on-demand training format to work in conjunction with and complement the existing online WBETS;
- Deliverables in both DVD and VHS;
- Training modules with audio and video capability;
- Training module videos that capture real presentations; and,
- Advanced training initiatives for recertification or other specialized training.

2. Expand the Web-Based Election Training System (WBETS) with New Content

As new Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) functionalities are implemented, additional training will be required. Board staff will expand WBETS to include SVRS training modules on common election management tasks that users perform before, during and after each election. Additional WBETS modules will be developed to include election administration training for clerks to enter candidate filings, nomination paper information and track reports in SVRS.

3. Train Reliers on SVRS Business Processes

Currently, it is common for smaller municipalities without technical resources (Reliers) to contract with larger municipalities or the county to provide SVRS

services (Providers). While this arrangement is economical, it has led to some problems as Reliers do not have the same frame of reference as Providers. SVRS staff will develop a business process training session for new Relier clerks and their staff. Staff will train these users in voter registration data entry and HAVA interfaces in an effort to educate these users about their role in the SVRS provider-relier relationship and the importance of collecting good data from voters.

4. Develop Accessibility Survey Training

Board staff will explore the possibility of providing regular training in various formats on how to conduct polling place accessibility surveys. Many of the questions on the survey are technically-oriented, i.e., What is the slope of the sidewalk? How many pounds of pressure does it take to open the door? This training could improve the consistency and reliability of accessibility self-reports. Attendance at these sessions could be fostered by counting this training as part of their required six hours of ongoing elections training.

5. Additional Training Initiatives

A. Election administration training for school district clerks using WisLine programming.

B. Training for SVRS users prior to anticipated redistricting due to the 2010 census on the addressing and districting functionality of SVRS.

C. Providing training tools for clerks to use to train members of their board of canvass.

D. Contracting with voter advocacy groups to provide election observer training.

E. Early voting training for municipal clerks if legislation is signed into law. Additional information on early voting may be found in the Election Administration section of this Plan.

F. If Electronic Poll Books are adopted for use in Wisconsin (see Election Administration section), training will need to be developed for election inspectors on the proper use of electronic poll books in the polling place. Additional training may also be necessary for existing SVRS users.

G. Training for SVRS users to enter canvass results directly into the system to produce faster and more accurate reports. (See Election Administration section.)

H. Board staff will develop new training plans and materials for other training needs identified through collaboration with the Wisconsin Election Administration Council and other partnerships.

I. Training for municipal clerks and chief election inspectors on current procedures to prevent or report suspected illegal voting.

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Section 4
Voting System Guidelines

How the State will adopt voting system guidelines and processes which are consistent with the requirements of Section 301?

Wisconsin has established a set of standards for the approval of electronic voting systems. Wis. Stat. § 5.91. The Government Accountability Board has also promulgated administrative rules detailing the process for approving electronic voting systems for use in Wisconsin. Wis. Admin. Code GAB Ch. 7.

Wisconsin requires any electronic voting system to be qualified against the voting systems standards established by the Federal Election Commission before it can be used in the state. The qualification must be done by an independent testing laboratory approved by the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED). The Board may not approve any electronic voting system that has not been qualified to the standards established by the Federal Election Commission in December 2002.

The Board permits any municipality that uses an optical scan voting system to continue to use the system. All new equipment approved for use in Wisconsin must meet the most current federal standards. For additional information on Voting System Guidelines, please see "Voting Equipment Certification" on pages 28-29.

Section 5
HAVA Election Fund Management

How the State will establish a separate election fund for purposes of administering the State's activities under this part, including information on fund management?

The former State Elections Board introduced legislation, 2003 Assembly Bill 123, that established the appropriate Federal account to meet the HAVA requirement for a separate election fund for managing the receipt and distribution of HAVA payments and state matching funds. This legislation was passed by the legislature and signed into law by the governor on July 24, 2003. 2003 Wisconsin Act 35.

Former State Elections Board staff met with the State Controller's office to set up the fund and review the applicable administrative guidelines. The Legislative Audit Bureau also conducted a financial and compliance audit of the fund as part of the state's adherence to the Federal Single Audit Act of 1984. The Wisconsin HAVA Elections Fund will continue for depositing all HAVA Federal Funds received, and the required State Matching Funds.

Section 6
Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan Budget

The State's proposed budget for activities under this part, based on the State's best estimates of the costs of such activities and the amount of funds to be made available, including specific information on the costs of the activities required to be carried out to meet the requirements of Title III; the portion of the Requirements Payments which will be used to carry out activities to meet such requirements; and the portion of the Requirements Payments which will be used to carry out other activities.

It is important to note that this 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan is not meant simply to capture $3,947,062 in FFY-2008 and FFY-2009 Requirements Payments. This Plan is developed from a broader and longer-range strategic perspective. As such, the financial support needed for the five-year outlook for achieving the program activities far exceeds the $3,947,062 FFY-2008 and FFY-2009 Requirements Payments that Wisconsin is currently eligible to receive.

Staff estimates the cost to support this five-year plan to be between $17.3 and $20 million dollars over five years, or over $3.5 million dollars annually. This 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan is developed and written broadly but specific enough to accommodate additional funds that may be appropriated by the U. S. Congress over the next five years.

It is our assumption and intent to advance the Wisconsin 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan with 95% Federal funding, along with the HAVA-mandated 5% state match. If the required level of Federal funding is not generated over the course of the State's five year Plan as expected, Wisconsin reserves the right to revisit and mitigate planned activities, initiatives and reforms. Even though 95% of the Plan is expected to be supported by Federal funding, as each planned initiative and reform is carefully studied, explored and examined, the review process will include a determination of any fiscal impact on municipalities.

Wisconsin's HAVA Budget
Five Year Federal Funds Summary

	Title II Requirements Payments		Title II Funds	Title II Funds	Title I Funds	Total Federal Funds
Description	HAVA Requirements Payments FFY-2008	HAVA Requirements Payments FFY-2009	HAVA Section 251 Funds	HAVA Section Funds 261*	HAVA Section 101 Funds	Total Federal Funds
Election Administration	$306,004	$266,090			$1,877,406	$2,449,500
Ensuring Voter Accessibility in Polling Place	$53,488	$46,512		$348,500		$448,500
Ensuring Voting Systems' Integrity and Security	$5,349	$4,651			$40,000	$50,000
Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System	$685,825	$596,369	$4,717,806			$6,000,000
Voter Education, Information and Outreach Program	$97,452	$84,742			$317,806	$500,000
Education, Training and Technical Support for Local Election Officials	$150,365	$130,752	$458,186		$185,697	$925,000
Program Management, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation **(Personnel Costs)**	$812,736	$706,727	$4,174,869	$256,599	$1,294,069	$7,245,000
TOTAL	$2,111,219	$1,835,843	$9,350,861	$605,099	$3,714,978	$17,618,000

* The following § 261 funds must be expended by the following respective Federal Fiscal Years: FFY-2004 § 261 Funds (09/30/09); FFY-2005 § 261 Funds (09/30/2010); FFY-2006 § 261 Funds (09/30/2011); FFY-2007 § 261 Funds (09/30/2012); and, FFY-2008 § 261 Funds (09/30/2013).

Projecting budget estimates into a five year outlook framework is more art than science; nevertheless, in identifying various funding streams for support program initiatives in Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan, the best available information (past expenditure trends) was used and carefully analyzed assumptions were applied to allocate these costs among funding streams.

Assumptions

1. To determine the amount of costs assigned to the HAVA Requirements Payments of FFY-2008 and FFY-2009, the allocation method was based on expending each program area proportionately until these funds run out.

2. Since we estimated the cost to support Wisconsin five-year plan to be about $17.3 million dollars (about $17.6 when all the known and anticipated fiscal allocation for accessibility is included) over five years, or a little over $3.5 million dollars annually, based on this assumption, the $3,947,062 would last the agency roughly 13 months during the first year of implementing the Plan.

3. Therefore, approximately 20% of each activity (20% = approximately 1 year of the five year outlook) has been allocated to these funds. There is some fluctuation to this percentage because it is expected that certain activities to occur during the entire timeframe (during the 13-month period) when funds are received.

4. When assigning the costs of each program area to HAVA Section 251, 261, and 101 funds, expenditures trends were analyzed from prior years' experiences that accounted for these funds.

5. The shaded cells represent areas from which no funds are expected to be expended, based on:

   - Funding Purpose;
   - Funding Availability;
   - Past expenditure spending trends; and,
   - Reporting.

Budget Summary

Description	Estimated Costs
Election Administration	$2,449,500
Ensuring Voter Accessibility in Polling Place	$448,500
Ensuring Voting Systems' Integrity and Security	$50,000
Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System	$6,000,000
Voter Education, Information and Outreach Program	$500,000
Education, Training and Technical Support for Local Election Officials	$925,000
Program Management, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation **(Personnel Costs)**	$7,245,000
Estimated Five-Year Total (2009-2014)	**$17,618,000**
Estimated Annual Costs	$3,523,600

Elections Administration Budget Details
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

Description	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
Supplies			
Membership and Subscription Fees	$1,100	5	$5,500
Printing	$35,000	5	$175,000
Postage	$25,000	5	$125,000
Rent	$17,500	5	$87,500
Office Supplies and Miscellaneous Expenses	$1,800	5	$9,000
Insurance	$400	5	$2,000
Staff Computers	$70,000	1	$70,000
Replacing expired printers	$6,500	1	$6,500
Replacing expired copiers	$7,500	1	$7,500
Total Supplies			**$488,000**
Travel			
Hotels, Travel Vouchers, Airline Tickets, Fleet Car	$36,500	5	$182,500
Conference Room Rentals	$1,250	5	$6,250
Registration Fees (Seminars, Staff Training)	$7,250	5	$36,250
Total Travel			**$225,000**
IS Technical			
IS Technical	$1,736,500	Varies	$1,736,500
Total IS Technical			**$1,736,500**
Elections Administration Costs			**$2,449,500**

Ensuring Voter Accessibility in Polling Place Budget Details
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

Description	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
Accessible Hardware and Signage	$50,000	1	$50,000
Cost-Sharing to Municipalities to Improve Accessibility	$50,000	1	$50,000
Continue Polling Place Accesibility Monitoring	$20,000	1	$20,000
Qualitative Analysis of 2008 Accessability Surveys	$75,000	1	$75,000
Accessible Device Programming Subsidy	$20,000	1	$20,000
Incentive for Accessible Devices During In-Person Absentee Period	$40,000	1	$40,000
Community Oragnization Accessibility Grants	$8,000	1	$8,000
Update Accessibility Video	$75,000	1	$75,000
Web-based Training Opportunities	$100,000	1	$100,000
Improve Accessibility of the G.A.B. Website	$10,000	1	$10,000
Improve TTD Capability and Visibility	$500	1	$500
Ensuring Voter Accessibility in Polling Place Costs			**$448,500**

Ensuring Integrity and Security of Voting Systems Budget Details
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

Description	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
Technical Advisory Committee Costs	$5,000	5	$25,000
Research of Alternate Voting Methods	$5,000	5	$25,000
Ensuring Integrity and Security of Voting Systems Costs			**$50,000**

Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System Budget Details
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

Description	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
Supplies			
Printing (Administrative, Newsletters, Fed Felon, Voter Verification Cards, Cancellations to Other States, Updates, DOB Compliance)	$85,000	5	$425,000
Postage (Administrative, Newsletters, Fed Felon, Voter Verification Cards, Cancellations to Other States, Updates, HAVA 4-year maintenance)	$145,000	5	$725,000
Office Supplies and Miscellaneous Expenses	$20,000	5	$100,000
Purchasing Card and Miscellaneous Postage	$6,500	5	$32,500
Rent	$115,000	5	$575,000
Travel (Hotel, Fleet Car, Travel Vouchers, Airline)	$35,000	5	$175,000
File Processing Services, UPS, Federal Express	$20,000	5	$100,000
Fax/Photocopier	$5,000	5	$25,000
Total Supplies			**$2,157,500**
Services and Contractual			
Department of Administration Support and Chargeback C	$29,000	5	$145,000
SVRS Steering Committee Expense	$5,000	5	$25,000
Agency Partner Interfaces	$17,500	5	$87,500
Temporary Staff Support	$12,500	5	$62,500
E-Learning	$17,000	5	$85,000
SVRS Upgrades and Enhancements	$85,000	5	$425,000
Incorporate SWEBIS with SVRS	$1,050,000	1	$1,050,000
IT Consulting Services	$325,000	5	$1,625,000
Total Services and Contractual			**$3,505,000**
IS Technical			
LAN Lines	$5,000	5	$25,000
Telephone, Email, and WISLINE	$30,000	5	$150,000
Database Hosting & Computer File Space Charges	$25,000	5	$125,000
Consolidated Data Network	$7,500	5	$37,500
Total IS Technical			**$337,500**
Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System Costs			**$6,000,000**

Voter Education, Information and Outreach Program Budget Details
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

Description	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
Supplies			
Printing	$12,000	5	$60,000
Postage	$24,000	5	$120,000
Office Supplies and Miscellaneous Expenses	$2,500	5	$12,500
Reproduction for DVD(s)	$17,500	5	$87,500
Reproduction Materials for Manuals and Brochures	$10,000	5	$50,000
Total Supplies			**$330,000**
Contractual			
Design and Delivery of DVD(s)	$80,000	1	$80,000
Total Contractual			**$80,000**
IS Technical			
Web site design and development	$18,000	5	$90,000
Total IS Technical			**$90,000**
Voter Education, Information and Outreach Program Costs			**$500,000**

Education, Training and Technical Support for Election Officials Budget Details
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

Description	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
Printing Training Materials	$11,000	5	$55,000
Postage Training Materials	$2,500	5	$12,500
Travel Costs of Chief Inspector Training	$10,500	5	$52,500
Travel Costs of Municipal Clerk Training	$9,000	5	$45,000
Travel Costs of Special Registration Deputy Training	$8,000	5	$40,000
Travel Costs of SVRS Application Training	$90,000	5	$450,000
Training Equipment	$45,000	1	$45,000
WBETS Training Program	$225,000	1	$225,000
Education, Training and Technical Support for Local Election Officials			**$925,000**

Program Management, Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Budget Details (Personnel Costs)
October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2014

	Descripition	Annual Costs	Years	Total Costs
1	Staff Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration Systems Salaries	$691,280	5	$3,456,400
	Staff Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration Systems Fringe Benefits	$289,715	5	$1,448,577
2	Elections Administration Staff Salaries	$140,109	5	$700,545
	Elections Administration Staff Fringe Benefits	$58,720	5	$293,598
3	Staff Ensuring Voter Accessibility in Polling Places Salaries	$45,760	5	$228,800
	Staff Ensuring Voter Accessibility in Polling Places Fringe Benefits	$19,178	5	$95,890
4	Voter Education, Information and Outreach Program Staff Salaries	$37,440	5	$187,200
	Voter Education, Information and Outreach Program Staff Fringe Benefits	$15,691	5	$78,456
5	Staff Providing Education, Training and Technical Support for Local Election Officals Salaries	$106,496	5	$532,480
	Staff Providing Education, Training and Technical Support for Local Election Officals Fringe Benefits	$44,632	5	$223,162
Program Management, Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Costs (Personnel Costs)				**$7,245,000**

Personnel Costs
October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2014

Position Title/Role	Average Hourly Salary	Hours Annually	Annual Salary	Fringe Benefits	Total	Five-Year Total
SVRS IT Functional Lead	$30.00	2,080	$62,400	$26,152	$88,552	$442,759.20
SVRS UAT Lead	$22.00	2,080	$45,760	$19,178	$64,938	$324,690.08
SVRS Deployment Specialist	$22.00	2,080	$45,760	$19,178	$64,938	$324,690.08
SVRS Data Quality	$22.00	2,080	$45,760	$19,178	$64,938	$324,690.08
SVRS IT Specialist	$29.00	2,080	$60,320	$25,280	$85,600	$428,000.56
SVRS IT Specialist	$29.00	2,080	$60,320	$25,280	$85,600	$428,000.56
Help Desk Lead	$22.00	2,080	$45,760	$19,178	$64,938	$324,690.08
Help Desk Support	$15.00	2,080	$31,200	$13,076	$44,276	$221,379.60
Help Desk Support	$15.00	2,080	$31,200	$13,076	$44,276	$221,379.60
Program & Planning Analyst	$21.00	2,080	$43,680	$18,306	$61,986	$309,931.44
Lead Elections Specialist	$21.00	2,080	$43,680	$18,306	$61,986	$309,931.44
Elections Specialist	$19.00	2,080	$39,520	$16,563	$56,083	$280,414.16
Elections Specialist	$19.00	2,080	$39,520	$16,563	$56,083	$280,414.16
Elections Specialist	$19.00	2,080	$39,520	$16,563	$56,083	$280,414.16
Elections Specialist	$19.00	2,080	$39,520	$16,563	$56,083	$280,414.16
Elections Specialist	$19.00	2,080	$39,520	$16,563	$56,083	$280,414.16
Elections Specialist	$19.00	2,080	$39,520	$16,563	$56,083	$280,414.16
Office Operations Associate	$14.00	2,080	$29,120	$12,204	$41,324	$206,620.96
Office Operations Associate	$14.00	2,080	$29,120	$12,204	$41,324	$206,620.96
Accessibility Specialist	$20.00	2,080	$41,600	$17,435	$59,035	$295,172.80
Public Information Officer	$23.00	2,080	$47,840	$20,050	$67,890	$339,448.72
Training Coordinator	$21.00	2,080	$43,680	$18,306	$61,986	$309,931.44
Training Officer	$18.45	2,080	$38,376	$16,083	$54,459	$272,296.91
Training Officer	$18.45	2,080	$38,376	$16,083	$54,459	$272,296.91
Totals			$1,021,072	$427,931	$1,449,003	**$7,245,000.00**

Section 7
Maintenance of Effort

How the State, in using the Requirements Payments, will maintain the expenditures of the State for activities funded by the Payments at a level that is not less than the level of such expenditures maintained by the State for the fiscal year ending prior to November 2000.

The receipt of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 funds were new expenditures for Wisconsin. The State was not in the business of running a Statewide Voter Registration System or acquiring accessible voting equipment prior to HAVA.

The costs for conducting elections in Wisconsin are absorbed by municipalities. No local funds were spent on HAVA requirements in the base Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2000. Wisconsin will continue to maintain the level of State expenditures for HAVA requirements at the same or greater level as the State spent in FFY-2000, prior to the November 2000 Election. In FFY-2000, Wisconsin spent no funds on activities related to HAVA requirements. The State's election-related budget consisted of two State fund supported Full Time Equivalent (FTE) elections specialists. These positions continue to be funded with State funds

Title III Payments have been used to meet new requirements mandated by HAVA. Wisconsin's local units of government had no responsibility for the development and implementation of the State's Statewide Voter Registration System. Prior to HAVA or receipt of HAVA funding, voting equipment used by local government for conducting elections had to meet State – not Federal standards.

In order to address accessibility requirements, Wisconsin acquired new equipment to supplement existing local voting systems. This was an additional requirement for local governments. The HAVA money was an election infrastructure investment. These requirements have resulted in increased spending of state and local funds to maintain the new systems put in place with HAVA funds. State and local governments are using non-Federal monies to maintain and replace this investment.

In Wisconsin, all previous HAVA Requirements Payments have been used to augment the preexisting level of State funding for Election Administration. Any new Requirements Payments that may be distributed to local government will be conditioned on a continuing maintenance of effort to ensure that Federal funds do not replace existing local government expenditures on election administration.

Wisconsin uses the Requirements Payments for election administration infrastructure rather than passing through funds to local government. Wisconsin will continue this practice with receipt of FFY-2008, FFY-2009, FFY-2010, and any further Requirements Payments.

Section 8
HAVA Performance Goals and Measures

Performance goals and measures have been developed by the Government Accountability Board staff in consultation with the Wisconsin Election Administration Council. The implementation strategies, including performance goals provide measurement standards for each element of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

Each performance goal is a part of a single or composite project activity designed to implement all elements of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan. Each goal is attributable to individual staff positions in collaboration with a team of stakeholders and interested parties.

Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan will be under the general direction and executive sponsorship of the Government Accountability Board's Director and General Counsel and Wisconsin's Chief Election Official. The Elections Division Administrator will oversee management, supervision and implementation of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

Performance Goals and Measures

> § 254(a)(8) – How the State will adopt performance goals and measures that will be used by the State to determine its success and the success of units of local government in the State in carrying out the plan including timetables for meeting each of the elements of the plan, descriptions of the criteria the State will use to measure performance and the process used to develop such criteria and a description of which official is to be held responsible for ensuring that each performance goal is met.

Election Administration

Element of Plan:	Page 13
Goal:	Create a General education program warning of the effect of casting multiple votes for an office
Measure:	❑ Incorporate information into the Type B notice ❑ Distribute the document to all clerks to post ❑ Add this document to the Chief Inspector training materials
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Document posted and added to manuals by October 1, 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 14
Goal:	Modify GAB-117 to include "the right of an individual to cast a provisional ballot"
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Distribute modified GAB-117 to clerks and every polling place ❑ Add this document to the Election Day Manual
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2009-2010 Legislative Session Document posted and added to manuals June 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 14
Goal:	Modify statutes for the extension UOCAVA voters have for proof of residence to citizens that vote under the Elderly and Handicapped Act
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Distribute information to clerks ❑ Educate voters on the change
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Utilized for February 16, 2012 election

Element of Plan:	Page 14
Goal:	Implement a pilot early voting program to determine if Wisconsin should institute early voting
Measure:	❑ Gather public feedback ❑ Statutes change to allow for early voting ❑ Train county and municipal clerks on early vote processes
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2009-2010 Legislative Session Utilized for April 2010 election.

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 14
Goal:	Ease the burdens of absentee voting
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Examine the requirement for witness signature ❑ Examine the envelope requirement ❑ Examine the application requirement ❑ Actions based on the examinations above ❑ Allow the return of the voted ballot by fax or email ❑ Allow all electors to receive ballots automatically for all elections ❑ Allow a facsimile signature on an absentee ballot request ❑ Allow vote by mail ❑ Explore options for reduced postage rates
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2009-2010 Legislative Session Utilized for February 2010 election

Element of Plan:	Page 16
Goal:	Research alternate voting methods
Measure:	❑ Committee formed to examine alternate voting methods used by other states ❑ Information gathered regarding voter turnout in states that use a method other than in-person voting ❑ Analysis performed by G.A.B. to determine feasibility
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Research completed by November 2013

Element of Plan:	Page 16
Goal:	Create system to allow all voters to track their absentee ballot status.
Measure:	❑ Modify SVRS/VPA ❑ Create administrative rule on absentee tracking requirements
Designee:	Election Division Administrator
Timeline:	SVRS/VPA modified by June 2010 Administrative rule adopted by June 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 17
Goal:	Consolidate the items to be posted at polling places on Election Day and disseminated in advance of the election or put all postings together into one poster
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Fewer than 9 notices (plus sample ballot) to post ❑ All notices available by January 20, 2010
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2009-2010 Legislative Session Postings available by January 20, 2010 and posted at February 16, 2010 Election and every election thereafter

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 17
Goal:	Expand the geographic area in which an election inspector may serve
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Residency requirement for poll workers modified
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2009-2010 Legislative Session Utilized for February 16, 2010 election

Element of Plan:	Page 17
Goal:	Allow the use of Electronic Poll Books
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Hardware purchased ❑ Software purchased and installed ❑ Train poll workers on electronic poll books
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Utilized for February 2012 election

Element of Plan:	Page 18
Goal:	Provide additional support for Election Day questions
Measure:	❑ Format chosen ❑ Information updated ❑ Disseminated to clerk
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Format chosen by June 2012 Distributed by June 2013

Element of Plan:	Page 18
Goal:	Reduce the number of election inspectors required to administer "curbside voting" to one, if another witness is present
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ G.A.B. change administrative policy, if necessary
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Implemented January 1, 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 18
Goal:	Implement online registration
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Voter can fill-out and submit registration form online ❑ Information shared with public by general media
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Developed and implemented by Spring Election 2013

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 19
Goal:	Change the deadline for open registration
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Clerks informed of change
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Implemented Spring 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 19
Goal:	Standardize voter verification procedures
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Requirements standardized ❑ Clerks informed of change
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2009-2010 Legislative Session Implemented December 1, 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 19
Goal:	Develop procedures to send and receive absentee ballot requests and voter registration forms via email and to send blank ballots via email
Measure:	❑ Administrative rule developed ❑ Manuals updated ❑ Rule communicated to the clerks
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Administrative rule developed by 2011 Manuals updated by 2011 Rule communicated with clerks by 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 20
Goal:	Redesign informational materials for overseas and military voters
Measure:	❑ Materials redesigned ❑ Website updated ❑ Clerks informed of new materials
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Redesign materials by 2011 Website updated by 2011 Clerks informed of new materials by 2011

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 20
Goal:	Create a system to allow military and overseas voters to track their absentee ballot requests
Measure:	❑ System created ❑ UOCAVA partners/resources updated
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	System created by 2011 UOCAVA partners/resources updated by 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 20
Goal:	Provide Special Registration Deputy training to Department of Defense personnel
Measure:	❑ Partnerships established with Wisconsin military personnel ❑ Special Registration Deputy training need assessed
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Partnerships established by 2011 Training needs assessed on an annual basis

Element of Plan:	Page 20
Goal:	Clarify the definitions of residency
Measure:	❑ Statutes changed to add information and consistency ❑ Clerks and Chief Election Inspectors trained and informed
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Utilized in Spring election 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 20
Goal:	Change the date of the partisan primary
Measure:	❑ Statutes changed to allow for earlier partisan primary ❑ Information shared with public by general media
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Utilized in Fall 2012 Election

Element of Plan:	Page 21
Goal:	Adjust certification terms of municipal clerks
Measure:	❑ Municipal clerk and election inspectors have same term dates ❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ Inform clerks of new dates
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Implemented January 1, 2012

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 21
Goal:	Improve ballot design support for local election administrators
Measure:	❑ Develop guidelines for local election administrators ❑ Distribute guidance
Designee:	Team Lead, Election Administration
Timeline:	Guidelines developed by May 2011 Distributed by June 2011

Accessibility

Ensuring Voter Accessibility in the Polling Place

Element of Plan:	Page 23
Goal:	Develop a plan for sharing staff accessibility survey data with relevant clerks
Measure:	❑ Create communication ❑ Determine timeline
Designee:	Accessibility Compliance Staff
Timeline:	Communication created by October 2010 Received by clerks no later then December 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 23
Goal:	Require all municipalities with new polling places or polling places that did not meet accessibility requirements to complete accessibility surveys
Measure:	❑ List of polling places out of compliance created ❑ G.A.B. Administrative Rule created to require surveys for new or non-compliant polling locations ❑ Surveys reviewed for continuing compliance
Designee:	Accessibility Compliance Staff
Timeline:	Survey results from Spring 2009 reviewed by September 1, 2009 Out-of-compliance list created by November 15, 2009 Polling places evaluated at Spring Primary 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 24
Goal:	Migrate the Accessibility Survey to an Electronic Format
Measure:	❑ SVRS or other database code written to accept information ❑ Survey able to be electronically completed and information stored
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator, SVRS Team Lead
Timeline:	Research completed by January 2012 Migration completed by November 2012

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 24
Goal:	Perform qualitative analysis of accessibility survey data
Measure:	❑ Statistics compiled ❑ Report submitted
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Analysis report submitted to G.A.B. for the January 2010 board meeting

Element of Plan:	Page 24
Goal:	Offer polling place accessibility improvement grants
Measure:	❑ Set aside funds ❑ Procedures developed to allocate funds ❑ Funds distributed
Designee:	Accessibility Compliance Staff
Timeline:	Procedures developed by June 2010 Funds distributed June 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 24
Goal:	Increase the diversity of the Accessibility Advisory Group
Measure:	❑ At least one more member is added from a currently unrepresented party
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	New member attends a meeting by January 2013

Element of Plan:	Page 24
Goal:	Audit polling places that have a self-reported survey on file
Measure:	❑ G.A.B. staff will conduct polling place audits at each election ❑ Surveys will be reviewed for continuing compliance
Designee:	Accessibility Compliance Staff
Timeline:	Each Election

Voting Systems

Ensuring Voting Systems' Integrity and Security

Element of Plan:	Page 28
Goal:	Approve Voting Equipment Certification at the Wisconsin level
Measure:	❑ Committee formed and meeting dates scheduled ❑ Testing methods and applications determined ❑ G.A.B. Board ruling to exempt Requirement of Federal Certification ❑ Voting Equipment Approved and Updates allowed by vendors
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Implemented June 1, 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 29
Goal:	Change statute to allow for non-Federal election data to be cleared 14 days after any primary and 21 days after any other state or local election
Measure:	❑ Change Statute(s) ❑ G.A.B. change administrative policy, if necessary
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Statutes changed in 2011-2012 Legislative Session Implemented January 1, 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 30
Goal:	Re-evaluate accessible voting equipment
Measure:	❑ Committee re-tests devices ❑ Decision made by G.A.B. to approve or disapprove device
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Testing completed by July 2010 Approval granted or denied by December 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 30
Goal:	Explore the option of a statewide uniform voting system.
Measure:	❑ Committee established ❑ Analysis of cost and feasibility completed ❑ Committee makes recommendation to the board
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Analysis complete by July 2011

Statewide Voter Registration Database

Maintaining Wisconsin's Statewide Voter Registration System

Element of Plan:	Page 34
Goal:	Complete HAVA check on all voters registered January 1, 2006 through August 5, 2008
Measure:	❑ All voters with a registration date after January 1, 2006 have "HAVA Check" response in voter record
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Final report on the retroactive HAVA Check process to the Board at its December 14, 2009 meeting

Element of Plan:	Page 34
Goal:	Complete voter record maintenance, per Wis. Stat. § 6.50 (1)
Measure:	❑ Voters with 4 years since they last voted are sent a notice of suspension ❑ Voter records updated in SVRS with delivery response
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Within 90 days of General Election November 2010 Within 90 days of General Election November 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 34
Goal:	Maintain software and infrastructure maintained in order to keep the system functional
Measure:	❑ Adequate staff hired and/or retained ❑ Adequate redundant services in place so that outages do not affect performance ❑ Updates installed regularly ❑ Data back-up completed regularly
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Ongoing need; reviewed twice each year

Element of Plan:	Page 35
Goal:	Expand the information available on VPA
Measure:	❑ Election Results viewable by public ❑ Absentee ballot status viewable by public ❑ Polling place accessibility information viewable by public ❑ Provisional ballot status viewable by public in a more timely manner
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	November 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 35, 20
Goal:	Utilize SVRS for the collection of canvass data
Measure:	❑ Improve SVRS to allow for the housing of data ❑ Data entered for Spring Primary Election 2010 ❑ Improvements made based on Spring Primary Election 2010 results ❑ Data entered for Spring Election 2010 ❑ Train SVRS Users on canvass functions
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	System changes developed and tested by January 2010 Utilized in Spring Primary and Spring Election 2010

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 36
Goal:	Modify the SVRS to accommodate redistricting needs
Measure:	❑ Test existing redistricting functionality to determine capability ❑ Create new functionality to meet redistricting needs
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	System changes developed and tested by January 2010 Implemented by February 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 36
Goal:	Update database indexing and improve source code in problem areas
Measure:	❑ Areas of improvement identified and prioritized ❑ Upgrades implemented and available to users
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	List created by October 2009 Improvements delivered at minimum every 6 months

Element of Plan:	Page 36
Goal:	Automate HAVA Check interface
Measure:	❑ HAVA Check sent automatically when voter application is processed
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Implementation completed by January 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 36
Goal:	Streamline absentee processes
Measure:	❑ Reduce number of steps involved in completing basic absentee functions ❑ Increased usage of absentee statewide
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Implementations completed by May 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 36
Goal:	Streamline other processes
Measure:	❑ Areas in needed of streamlining identified and prioritized ❑ New functionality developed and implemented for users
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Implementations completed by May 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 37
Goal:	Upgrade reporting functionality
Measure:	❑ Data elements, naming conventions and report views standardized ❑ Allow users more flexibility in creating custom reports
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Implementations completed by May 2010

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 37
Goal:	Implement upgrades to SVRS to accommodate early voting
Measure:	❑ Upgrades identified and implemented at a minimum track to allow for early voter's registration, ballots cast and participation
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	February 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 37
Goal:	Implement electronic poll books
Measure:	❑ Electronic poll book developed and compatible with SVRS ❑ Election officials adequately trained on electronic poll books
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	June 2012

Element of Plan:	Page 38
Goal:	Incorporate existing Election Day reports in the SVRS
Measure:	❑ Develop electronic databases compatible with the SVRS to track Election Day data ❑ Able to generate reports analyzing Election Day incidents
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Implementation by November 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 38
Goal:	Continue integration of the Wisconsin Election Data Collection System (WEDCS) with the SVRS
Measure:	❑ Streamline the amount of data requested from local election officials ❑ Reduce post-election reconciliation time and effort by election officials
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	December 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 38
Goal:	Online registration for voters who move or change their name
Measure:	❑ Develop form for voters to complete registration online
Designee:	Team Lead, SVRS
Timeline:	Implementation by November 2010

Voter Education, Election Official Education and Training, and Poll Worker Training

Element of Plan:	Page 42
Goal:	Update G.A.B. website and add "Absentee" section
Measure:	❑ Gather all absentee information and convert to electronic documents ❑ Create a section on the website ❑ Post gathered information to website
Designee:	Webmaster, Public Information Officer
Timeline:	September 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 42
Goal:	Create public education materials related to accessibility
Measure:	❑ Meet with Accessibility Advisory Group ❑ Develop and print ❑ Distribute
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Electronic version available by July 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 43
Goal:	Offer brochure on Election Day Activities
Measure:	❑ Partner with the voter advocacy groups to create ❑ Print ❑ Distribute
Designee:	Webmaster, Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Electronic version available by July 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 43
Goal:	Disseminate information on voting opportunities for eligible high school students
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by October 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 43
Goal:	Create "How to be a Poll Worker" media
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by June 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 43
Goal:	Create materials about how to use voting equipment
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by January 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 43
Goal:	Create materials about the differences between partisan and non-partisan elections
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by August 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 44
Goal:	Materials created to educate voters on election security
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by January 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 44
Goal:	Create materials to educate on voter registration
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by January 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 44
Goal:	Voter rights and responsibilities media produced
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public Information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by January 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 45
Goal:	Offer training for all chief inspectors throughout the state
Measure:	❑ Training schedule developed with a variety of locations ❑ Chief election inspectors trained for every polling place
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Schedule completed yearly no less then 45 days before an election

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Element of Plan:	Page 45
Goal:	Offer training for all municipal clerks throughout the state
Measure:	❑ Training schedule developed with a variety of locations ❑ Municipal clerk trained for every municipality
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Schedule completed yearly no less then 45 days before an election

Element of Plan:	Page 45
Goal:	Offer training tools for clerks to train election inspectors
Measure:	❑ On demand training ❑ Deliverables in DVD and VHS ❑ All training includes audio and video ❑ Recorded "live" sessions available
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Contract and outline of desired materials by November 2009 First deliverable available June 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 46
Goal:	Offer SRD training and re-certification throughout the state
Measure:	❑ Training schedule developed with a variety of locations ❑ SRD's trained for every municipality
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Schedule completed yearly no less then 60 days before an election

Element of Plan:	Page 46
Goal:	Offer SVRS application and business process training for clerks and staff
Measure:	❑ Training schedule developed with a variety of locations ❑ Clerk's office employees trained for every provider
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Schedule completed yearly no less then 45 days before an election

Element of Plan:	Page 48
Goal:	Offer public education through multiple media formats (new and current)
Measure:	❑ Media developed ❑ Information disseminated
Designee:	Public information Officer
Timeline:	Ongoing, first deliverable available by January 2010

Visioning The Future:
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Element of Plan:	Page 48
Goal:	Add more modules to the WBETS training site
Measure:	❑ More then 20 modules available ❑ Topics of interest developed
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	List of new modules created by October 2009 New modules available by July 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 48
Goal:	Train reliers on SVRS business processes
Measure:	❑ Training scheduled ❑ Materials posted to website
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	List of new modules created by October 2009 New modules available by July 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 49
Goal:	Train local election officials on successfully completing the Accessibility Survey
Measure:	❑ Training scheduled ❑ Tool list available
Designee:	Elections Division Administrator
Timeline:	Training scheduled by February 2010

Element of Plan:	Page 49
Goal:	Offer SVRS functionality training for redistricting needs
Measure:	❑ Training curriculum developed ❑ Training schedule created and staffed
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Curriculum created by October 2011 Training begins December 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 49
Goal:	Provide training tools for clerks to use to train member of their board of canvass
Measure:	❑ Training tools developed ❑ Tools distributed to clerks
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Training tools created by November 2009 Distribution by December 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 49
Goal:	Develop training for municipal clerks and chief election inspectors on current procedures to prevent or report suspected illegal voting.
Measure:	❑ Training modules developed for MCT/CIT trainings
Designee:	Training Coordinator
Timeline:	Training modules created by November 2009

Element of Plan:	Page 50
Goal:	Provide election administration training for school district clerks using WisLine programming.
Measure:	❑ Create training materials ❑ Conduct WisLine training sessions
Designee:	Election Administration Lead
Timeline:	Create training materials by 2011 Conduct WisLine trainings by 2011

Element of Plan:	Page 50
Goal:	Provide election observer training.
Measure:	❑ Create training materials ❑ Conduct observer training
Designee:	Election Administration Lead
Timeline:	Create training materials by June 2010 Conduct observer training as needed

Section 9
State-Based Administrative Complaint Procedures

A description of the uniform, nondiscriminatory State-based administrative complaint procedures in effect under Section 402.

The Government Accountability Board established an administrative complaint procedure to comply with HAVA § 402. Wis. Stat. § 5.06, Wis. Admin. Code GAB Ch. 10. An elector who believes that the action or inaction of an election official concerning nominations, qualification of candidates, voting qualifications, ward division and numbering, recall, ballot preparation, election administration, or the conduct of elections is contrary to law or that the actions or inactions of an election official with respect to any such matter constitute an abuse of discretion, may file a complaint with the Board.

Decisions of the Board may be appealed to the courts. Any elector who believes that an election official is acting in violation of the law may request the appropriate district attorney, or in some cases, the attorney general to petition a court for appropriate relief. However, the recount procedure is the exclusive judicial remedy for addressing any alleged irregularity, defect, or mistake committed during the voting or canvassing process.

The HAVA implementation legislation creates another procedure for addressing alleged noncompliance with any provision of HAVA relating to voting system standards, provisional voting, voting information, registration procedure and administration, and voter identification. Whenever any person (whether an individual or another entity and whether inside or outside this state) believes that a violation of HAVA has occurred, is occurring, or is proposed to occur with respect to an election for national office in this state, that person may file a written, sworn complaint with the Board.

The agency must grant the complainant a formal hearing upon request and must issue a decision on the complaint, together with an order for any appropriate relief, within 89 days. The relief may not include any order affecting the right of any person to hold an elective office or affecting the canvass of an election on or after the date of that election.

Section 10
Use of Title I Payments

If the State received any payment under Title I, a description of how such payment will affect the activities proposed to be carried out under the plan, including the amount of funds available for such activities.

Wisconsin used HAVA §101 payments as follows:

- Personnel costs associated with preparing the State's 2004 Election Administration Plan.
- Personnel costs associated with educating and training State staff on HAVA requirements.
- Personnel costs to implement HAVA requirements.
- Supported development and implementation of training protocols for the States' Chief Election Inspectors and other election officials.
- Supported costs associated with development of voter education materials and protocols for ensuring compliance with HAVA's disability access requirements.
- Supported the hiring of a consultant to design the Request for Proposal (RFP), for selecting a vendor and project manager for implementing the Statewide Voter Registration System.
- Supported the study of the feasibility of developing an election information management system for the former State Elections Board.

Section 11
State Plan Management

How the State will conduct ongoing management of the Plan.

The Government Accountability Board's HAVA implementation legislation established an Election Administration Council (WI-EAC) whose members are appointed by the chief state election official, consistent with the directions set out in HAVA § 255(a). 2003 Wisconsin Act 265. The Board views the State 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan as a dynamic, living document. The WI-EAC will continue to meet to monitor and advise on needed adjustments annually, and more frequently as necessary.

Performance goals and measures have been developed in consultation with the Wisconsin Election Administration Council. The implementation strategies, including performance goals, provide measurement standards for each element of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan. (See page 57.)

Each performance goal is a part of a single or composite project activity designed to implement all elements of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan. Each goal is attributable to individual staff members in collaboration with a team of stakeholders and interested parties.

Administration of Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan will be under the general direction and executive sponsorship of the Government Accountability Board's Director and General Counsel who is also Wisconsin's Chief Election Official. The Elections Division Administrator will oversee daily management, supervision and implementation of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

Section 12
Changes to State Plan from Previous Fiscal Year

In the case of a State with a State Plan in effect under this subtitle during the previous fiscal year, a description of how the Plan reflects changes from the State Plan for the previous fiscal year and of how the State succeeded in carrying out the State Plan for such previous fiscal year.

A summary of Wisconsin's 2004 priorities, accomplishments and continuing need, is detailed in the Appendix section of this Plan -- a summary that was first submitted to the U. S. Election Assistance Commission in September 2008. The 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan specifies, expands and delineates Wisconsin's continuing needs as part of the State's vision and direction for election administration over the next five years.

The 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan is consciously written broadly enough to absorb emerging issues that may manifest during the next five years; yet, it is specific enough to achieve the core goal and objective of maintaining immediate and future compliance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Compared to Wisconsin's 2004 Plan, the 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan is more detailed, more robust, bolder, more forward looking and significantly more specific. Everything the Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan proposes to continue to accomplish is embedded in enabling content provisions in the State's 2004 Election Administration Plan.

Section 13
State Plan Committee

A description of the committee which participated in the development of the State Plan in accordance with HAVA § 255 and the procedures followed by the committee.

Complying with HAVA Requirements

Procedure for Development of State Plan

§ 255 Process for Development and Filing of Plan; Publication by Commission

(a) The chief State election official shall develop the State plan under this subtitle through a committee of appropriate individuals, including the chief election officials of the two most populous jurisdictions within the States, other local election officials, stake holders (including representatives of groups of individuals with disabilities), and other citizens, appointed for such purpose by the chief State election official.

(b) After receiving the State plan of a State under this subtitle, the Commission shall cause to have the plan published in the Federal Register.

§ 256 Requirement for Public Notice and Comment

For the purposes of § 251(a)(1)(C), a State plan meets the public notice and comment requirements of this section if:

(1) Not later than 30 days prior to the submission of the plan, the State made a preliminary version of the plan available for public inspection and comment;

(2) The State publishes notice that the preliminary version of the plan is so available; and

(3) The State took the public comments made regarding the preliminary version of the plan into account in preparing the plan which was filed with the Commission.

In 2009, the Board's staff, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Election Administration Council's (WI-EAC), commenced a process that included review and analysis of Wisconsin compliance with the 2004 Plan and the development of a new five-year (2009-2014) strategic vision and direction for election administration in Wisconsin by the year 2014. The WI-EAC, was created by the Wisconsin Legislature as a nonpartisan committee to oversee the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 2004 Plan. The WI-EAC reconvened on April 16, 2009, June 17, 2009, and July 28, 2009.

The Wisconsin Government Accountability Board gave approval of a synopsis of the Draft 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan on June 22, 2009, for submission to the Wisconsin Legislature, and Wisconsin's residents for a 30-day review and comment period, starting June 27, 2009. The Board will give final approval on August 10, 2009, at which time the new Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission for publication in the Federal Register. Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Wisconsin Election Administration Plan will take effect 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

The WI-EAC will continue to meet at least once per year to review and revise the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan as necessary. Performance goals and measures have been developed in consultation with the WI-EAC. The implementation strategies, including performance goals, provide measurement standards for each element of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

Each performance goal is a part of a single or composite project activity designed to implement all elements of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan. Each goal is attributable to specific staff positions in collaboration with a team of stakeholders and interested parties.

Administration of Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan will be under the general direction and executive sponsorship of the Government Accountability Board's Director and General Counsel who is also Wisconsin's Chief Election Official. The Elections Division Administrator will oversee daily management, supervision and implementation of the 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan.

APPENDICES

Visioning The Future:
Election Administration in Wisconsin in 2014

Appendix 1
September 2008 Progress Report on the status of Compliance with Wisconsin's 2004 Election Administration Plan

This September 2008 Progress Report on the Status of Compliance with Wisconsin's 2004 Election Administration Plan, also served as Wisconsin's Application for accessing FFY-2008 Requirements Payments. Rather than approving Wisconsin's Application for FFY-2008 Requirements Payments, given the fact that Wisconsin's initial Plan was prepared in 2004, the U.S. Election Assistance Commission asked Wisconsin to amend, update or submit a new Plan. Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan is a new Plan.

This information is included in Wisconsin's 2009-2014 Election Administration Plan for the sole purpose of providing a Progress Report on the Status of Compliance with Wisconsin's 2004 Election Administration.

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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Judge Thomas Cane
Chair

Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Government Accountability Board

APPLICATION FOR FY-2008 REQUIREMENTS PAYMENTS
Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002
Compliance with HAVA Section 253(b)

CONTACT INFORMATION

State Submitting Application:	WISCONSIN
Amount of FY-2008 Requirements Payments Due to Wisconsin:	$2,111,219 (HAVA Funds) $ 111,117 (Wisconsin Match)
Chief Election Official:	**KEVIN J. KENNEDY** Director and General Counsel Government Accountability Board
Contact Person:	**NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON** Elections Division Administrator Government Accountability Board 17 West Main Street, Suite 310 Madison, WI 53701-2773 608 267 0715 (LAN) 608 267 0500 (FAX) Nat.Robinson@wi.gov http://gab.wi.gov

INTRODUCTION

Information contained on the following pages is a summary of how the State of Wisconsin has complied with Section 253(b) and all requirements delineated under Section 254 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002. Information also spells-out how Wisconsin intends to utilize the 2008 Requirements Payments to continue to improve and advance the administration of open, fair and transparent Federal and State elections.

The Current State of Wisconsin Plan

Wisconsin's 2004 Plan, developed in response to the Help America Vote Act of 2002 requirements, established the following four priorities or use of Requirements Payments and the corresponding State Match:

1. Design, develop and implement a Statewide Voter Registration System.
2. Evaluate new voting systems and all polling places for HAVA Section 301 and disability access compliance.
3. Develop an implementation and acquisition plan for compliant voting system.
4. Develop training and education programs for voters, elections officials and poll workers.

These four priorities have been achieved in varying degrees - none to the extent that either has reached its fullest performance level, operational potential or expectations. All four priorities are dynamic and require ongoing intervention that requires continuous financial support.

Wisconsin Officials understood from the very beginning -- when the 2004 Plan was being developed -- that the Federal Requirements Payments made available at that time, were not nearly enough to fully fund a complete implementation of the Plan's proposed activities, methodology evaluation, and assessment. This understanding is reflected in the Plan's language starting on Page 19. Relevant excerpts:

> Wisconsin is assuming that the costs of complying with HAVA will not end after Federal appropriations have ceased. The State Elections Board (now the Government Accountability Board) plans on holding in the Election Fund any unspent Federal funds remaining after all HAVA requirements have been met and using the interests earned from these funds to pay ongoing maintenance and program costs at the State and Local levels.
>
> The Federal government has not appropriated the full funding authorized in HAVA. It is essential that the Federal government follow-through on its commitment to assist in the funding of the HAVA mandated changes. The lack of full Federal funding will make implementation of HAVA virtually impossible. The State Elections Board (now the Government Accountability Board) is also concerned that beyond the three years of Federal funding, the ongoing costs of operating and maintaining the Statewide Voter Registration System and new voter equipment will be considerably higher than current local budgets for these efforts and any unspent money in the State Election Fund. The operation and maintenance of the new infrastructure will be a financial burden when HAVA funding is no longer available.

Status of Wisconsin's Four Priorities

Wisconsin has made great strides in achieving the four priorities delineated in the 2004 Plan. For example, in accordance with goals and objectives detailed in Wisconsin's 2004 Plan, a brief update follows:

1. Design, develop and implement a Statewide Voter Registration System

A Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) has been designed, developed, implemented, and has been used for printing voter poll lists since the September 2006, Primary Election. Given the complexity of the SVRS and its widespread and heavy use by over 2,000 county and municipal clerks and their staff (election officials), there is a constant and costly need for ongoing infrastructure maintenance and fixes, and software upgrades and upkeep.

The annual cost for hosting the infrastructure alone is over $800 thousand dollars! This expenditure does not include staffing costs for retaining advance journey-level computer experts who possess the highly technical skill-sets that are necessary to keep the SVRS functional. Wisconsin's SVRS HAVA-Check interface functionalities that allow for crossing-checking voter data with Wisconsin Department of Transportation, the Social Security Administration database, and convicted felon and deceased records, became operational on August 6, 2008.

Status: Although Wisconsin has technically achieved this priority, keeping the SVRS maintained, updated, and operational is a monumental and costly challenge, and requires an ongoing influx of new Federal funds in order to do so.

2. Evaluate new voting systems and all polling places for HAVA Section 301 and disability access compliance

3. Develop an implementation and acquisition plan for compliant voting system

In Wisconsin, elections are administered at the State level by the Government Accountability Board, but are conducted at the municipal level by 1,923 county and municipal clerks, throughout 1,850 towns, villages and cities. A full and comprehensive assessment and evaluation of voting systems' needs and requirements was made throughout Wisconsin, and an implementation and acquisition plan for compliant voting system was developed and followed. While each jurisdiction was given broad latitude to select a type of system from a pre-approved list, all of Wisconsin's municipalities and 2,822 polling places have approved voting systems that allow disabled, elderly and handicapped voters to vote privately and independently.

Wisconsin has made some progress in ensuring access to the polling place and inside the polling place for disabled, elderly and handicapped voters in the State's 2,822 polling places. An Accessibility Survey was developed and used by Wisconsin's 1,923 county and municipal clerks and has been revised twice since 2004. The Survey is undergoing a third revision to comply with recommendations made by Wisconsin's Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB). LAB is one of several service bureaus created by the Wisconsin Legislature, specifically to perform program and financial and other legislative administrative functions for the Legislature, some of which are of monitoring and evaluation of State and Federally funded initiatives administered by Wisconsin Government State Agencies.

The LAB conducted an assessment of the Wisconsin Elections Board (now the Government Accountability Board) and published its findings in a November 2007, Report (#07-16), on Wisconsin State and Local governments' compliance with election laws ("An Evaluation: Compliance with Election Laws"). As part of the evaluation process, the LAB dispatched its staff onsite to 39 different polling places. The LAB recommended the Accessibility Survey be revised and the Government Accountability Board follow-up the accountability

self-assessments of polling places done by Wisconsin's 1,923 county and municipal clerks. Since February 2008, the Government Accountability Board's staff has gone onsite during scheduled and special elections to conduct accessibility reviews. The revised draft Survey has been used as a pre-test for this purpose. Since February 2008 and to date, over 200 Accessibility Surveys have been completed onsite by staff of the Government Accountability Board. Progress reports have been provided to the LAB and to the Wisconsin Legislature's Joint Committee on Audit.

As stated in Wisconsin's 2004 Plan, a special toll free telephone line was installed specially for any voter to call free of charge, to voice concerns and/or file complaints about any aspect of elections administration in Wisconsin. Approximately 8-12 concerns/complaints are reported monthly through that line.

A detailed record kept with dispositions noted for follow-up, policy development consideration, and for audit purposes. Most voters call the Government Accountability Board's Help Desk to voice a concern or a complaint. This is likely due to the fact that the Help Desk phone number is more widely and broadly publicized.

Status: Ensuring that every polling place in Wisconsin is equipped with approved and properly working voting systems – including systems for disabled, elderly and handicapped voters -- is one of Wisconsin's highest priorities. However, given the frequent need for service and resulting high maintenance, maintaining operating compliance and the need for systems' replacements presents a precarious situation. An ongoing influx of new Federal funds is needed to ensure that disabled, elderly and handicapped voters are able to vote privately and independently.

Wisconsin is making progress but struggling to have staff visit and evaluate all 2,822 polling places in a timely manner. Additional efforts and steps need to be taken to conduct an independent and unbiased assessment of all Wisconsin's polling places and within a reasonable period of time. In conjunction with partners and advisors from Wisconsin's disability community, the Government Accountability Board is reviewing options and efficient and effective ways to accomplish independent reviews rather than returning to simply relying solely on the 1,923 Clerks for self-evaluations. It should also be noted that Wisconsin has translated some of its elections administrative business practices (materials) into alternative languages, i.e. Spanish and Hmong.

4. Develop training and education programs for voters, elections officials and poll workers

Wisconsin has developed and implemented exemplary model training, education programs and materials for elections officials (County and Municipal Clerks, Chief Inspectors, State Elections Board staff (now the Government Accountability Board staff) Inspectors, and poll workers. The Board staff need to convert paper training manuals and related training pamphlets, publications and documents to an electronic format.

The Government Accountability Board has converted some training business processes and practices to an electronic or online format but not nearly enough. For example, in February 2008, a new Web-Based Election Training System (WBETS), an eLearning website was launched. This format provides SVRS users (Wisconsin 1,923 Clerks) with the opportunity to take on-line training courses, download manuals, print step-by-step instructions for common tasks, watch how-to video demonstrations, and put their knowledge into practice with interactive SVRS simulations.

WBETS was developed over the past year through close collaboration among G.A.B. staff, municipal and county clerks, and the University of Wisconsin-Extension's Division of Continuing Education, Outreach & E-Learning. This partnership has produced a website with several features designed to help Wisconsin's clerk community carry the ever-increasing burden of elections management responsibilities.

In early February 2008, the Government Accountability Board announced the availability of an online tool for the public and voters called, "Voter Public Access" or V.P.A. Using VPA, voters can learn about the State's electoral process, their registration status, where to vote (polling place) and related information about elections administration and voting information on the Internet. VPA also gives the public a new means of getting information about voter registration, voting history, current office holders, and sample ballots for upcoming elections.

VPA is available under "Voter Information" on the Elections Division web-page at http://gab.wi.gov, the Government Accountability Board's website. The information provided on VPA pages comes directly from the SVRS and is maintained by local clerks. In rare cases, a voter may vote on a provisional ballot, and the VPA page will also allow that voter to check the status of her/his provisional ballot provided the clerk enters the information into SVRS.

In July 2008, the Government Accountability Board developed and made online training opportunities available to Wisconsin's local election officials before the August 6 HAVA-Check matching interface functionality was launched. Clerks were trained on the business process and interface functionality in the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) through a robust curriculum via the Government Accountability Board's Web-based Election Training System (WBETS) website.

The training sessions for users of SVRS include step-by-step guides, demonstration lessons, and interactive lessons for hands-on learning. Clerks who do not use SVRS were asked to complete lessons one and two of the curriculum to learn the business process. Clerks are able to post questions and receive answers on the Clerks' Forum found under the main menu. The online Interface curriculum is available 24/7 to Clerks at their convenience as a refresher course.

CONDITIONS SATISFIED FOR RECEIPT OF FUNDS

Section 253(b)

No Material Changes in the 2004 Plan:

The State of Wisconsin is not proposing to change, modify, revise or in any way or manner amend any of the elements of the State Plan relating to Section 254 or any other Titles (i.e. Title I; II; III; etc.) or Sections (i.e. 251; 254; 255; 256; 301; 451, etc.) under the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

No new priorities, no new goals, and no new activities are proposed for which any of the FY-2008 Requirements Payments would be used. No material changes in the administration of the 2004 Plan have been made or being proposed. As reflected by the aforementioned summary update of the four priorities delineated in the 2004 Plan, some progress has been made in accomplishing the intent of the priorities; however, significant work remains to be done in order for the 2004 Plan to be

implemented at its full performance level.

The FY-2008 Requirements Payments will be used to complete and further advance the achievement of the original intent of the already discussed 2004 priorities. These four priorities continue to accurately define, connote and reflect Wisconsin's elections administration needs and priorities. The FY-2008 Requirements Payments will allow Wisconsin to work towards reaching the full and complete intent of the goals that the four priorities were and continue to be designed to achieve.

Because there are No Material Changes in the 2004 Plan, all the commitments, terms and conditions agreed and certified to in the 2004 Plan remain unchanged. As such:

1. No 30-day public notice or review/comment period is warranted.

2. Wisconsin's existing approved plan for complying with implementation of the uniform, non-discriminatory administrative procedures required under Section 402 remains in effect.

3. Wisconsin's current agreement to comply with each of the following Federal Acts remains in effect:

   - The Voting Rights Act of 1965;
   - The Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act;
   - The Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act;
   - The National Vote Registration Act of 1993;
   - The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and,
   - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

DOCUMENTATION OF WISCONSIN'S FIVE PERCENT MATCH
$111,117

The Government Accountability Board affirms the following State General Purpose Revenue (GPR) funds will continued to be used solely and exclusively for expanding the capacity and advancing the intent, purpose and goals of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Source of State Match

The State of Wisconsin appropriated $831,500 in General Purpose Revenue (GPR) or State funds for State Fiscal Years (SFY) 2008 and 2009, expressly for the annual support costs associated with the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Division of Enterprise Technology's (DET) hosting of the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS). These appropriated GPR Funds by the State of Wisconsin Legislature are more than sufficient to satisfy the required $111,117 State Match.

WISCONSIN'S CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Wisconsin's Chief Executive Officer (The Honorable Jim Doyle, Governor) and Wisconsin's Chief Election Official (Mr. Kevin J. Kennedy, Director and General Counsel of the Government Accountability Board), signed Certification Statements, affirming that Wisconsin is in compliance with conditions set forth in Section 253(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, is included in this packet in which Wisconsin is requesting its designated share of the FY-2008 Requirements Payments.

Appendix 2
Government Accountability Board Members

JUDGE MICHAEL BRENNAN
Chairperson

JUDGE WILLIAM EICH
Vice Chairperson

JUDGE GERALD NICHOL
Secretary

JUDGE THOMAS BARLAND[1]

JUDGE THOMAS CANE

JUDGE VICTOR MANIAN[2]

JUDGE GORDON MYSE

[1] Judge Barland's term began May 1, 2009.
[2] Judge Manian's term ended May, 1, 2009.

Appendix 3
Wisconsin Election Administration Council

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

NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON
Elections Division Administrator
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

MARILYN BHEND
Johnson Town Clerk

ALICIA M. BOEHME
Disability Rights Wisconsin

SUE EDMAN
City of Milwaukee Board of Election Commissioners

SUE ERTMER
Winnebago County Clerk

JULEE HELT
Waunakee Village Clerk

DIANE HERMANN-BROWN
Sun Prairie City Clerk

MIKE HOPPENRATH
Watertown City Clerk

ANITA JOHNSON
Citizen Action of Wisconsin

ANDREA KAMINSKI
League of Women Voters of Wisconsin

MARCIA KELLY
Dale Town Clerk

NAN KOTTKE
Marathon County Clerk

KATHY NICKOLAUS
Waukesha County Clerk

SUE PECK
Marshall Village Clerk

AUDREY RUE
Brigham Town Clerk

HOWARD SEIFERT
Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

LISA WEINER
Milwaukee County Board of Election Commissioners

SANDRA WESOLOWSKI
Franklin City Clerk

MAUREEN RYAN
Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers

DAVID BALLMANN[1]
The Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

[1] David Ballmann resigned from the Wisconsin Election Administration Council on July 2, 2009.

Appendix 4
Accessibility Advisory Group Members

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

NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON
Elections Division Administrator
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

ALICIA M. BOEHME
Disability Rights Wisconsin

HOWARD SEIFERT
Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

MAUREEN RYAN[1]
Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers

JEREMIAH BEASLEY
National Federation of the Blind – Wisconsin

DOTTI MILNER
Elections Specialist – SVRS & Accessibility

ROSS HEIN
Elections Specialist – Voting Equipment

DAVID BUERGER
Elections Specialist – HAVA Compliance

JAMES NILSESTUEN
Program Operations Associate

[1] Maureen Ryan resigned from the Accessibility Advisory Group in March, 2008.

Appendix 5
Government Accountability Board Election Administration Staff who Participated in Developing Wisconsin's 2009-2014 State Plan

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

NATHANIEL E. ROBINSON
Elections Division Administrator
Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

DAVID BUERGER
Elections Specialist – HAVA Compliance

ALLISON COAKLEY
Training Coordinator

EDWARD EDNEY
SVRS Application Trainer

SHANE FALK
Staff Counsel

MICHAEL HAAS
Staff Counsel

BARBARA HANSEN
SVRS Director

ADAM HARVELL
SVRS Application Trainer

SHARRIE HAUGE
Special Assistant to the Director and General Counsel

ROSS HEIN
Elections Specialist – Voting Equipment

JOHN HOETH
Help Desk Associate

NATHAN JUDNIC
SVRS Specialist

DIANE LOWE
Elections Specialist – Lead

DAVID MEICHER
EAC Grant Accountant

DOTTI MILNER
Elections Specialist – SVRS & Accessibility

ANN OBERLE
SVRS UAT – Lead

KYLE RICHMOND[1]
Public Information Officer

STEVEN ROSSMAN
Help Desk – Lead

ANGELA STEINHAUER
SVRS Specialist

[1] Served through May 22, 2009.

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