

NEW MILLENNIUM BEST PRACTICES SURVEY

July 2003

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NASS

*National
Association of
Secretaries of State*

National Association of Secretaries of State

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Issue: Declining Voter Turnout and Civic Participation Among Youth

Young people are not participating in civic life in large numbers these days, and the candidates are not paying attention. Nationwide, roughly 33 percent of 18-to-24-year-olds turned out to vote in 2000--arguably the closest and most contentious presidential election in modern history. This alarmingly low turnout record--part of a twenty-five year trend of decline--gives many state election officials cause for alarm. When those numbers are coupled with the fact that most high school students have never set foot inside of a polling place, the future of American democracy seems pretty bleak.

Determined to curb this decline in youth participation, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) established the New Millennium Young Voters Project in 1998 to try and re-engage more young people in the democratic process. NASS began by conducting a national, nonpartisan study, which revealed that young people ages 18-24 are dropping out of the electoral process because they lack interest, trust, and knowledge when it comes to American government. They don't see their citizenship as an opportunity for involvement, they don't know how or where to get the information or skills they need for greater participation in civic life, and above all, they just don't make it to the polls on Election Day.

The 1998 NASS New Millennium Report also showed that traditional motivational strategies aren't working well with this age group. Consequently, NASS is constantly trying to identify new and innovative ways to provide our country's young people with the information and skills they need to become motivated, educated and informed citizens. The association seeks out these model election outreach programs to share with the nation's secretaries of state.

No organization represents the perspectives of today's youth more than the Youth Vote Coalition, the nation's largest, nonpartisan coalition for groups dedicated to increasing civic participation across the nation. We are grateful for their participation in this endeavor. Together, NASS and Youth Vote reviewed the youth-oriented voter outreach efforts of every state elections office and highlighted the best and most original work. The result is a consistent overview of the outreach work of the states, as well as a glimpse of the most innovative program ideas of 2003.

Additionally, NASS and Youth Vote gathered information on how the states are working to meet the challenges of the new Help America Vote Act, a federal election reform law with a number of deadlines that will take effect in 2004. Some of the law's provisions, such as the voter identification requirement for first-time voters, will have a direct impact on young people. The bill also contains federal funds earmarked to help states fortify their youth voter outreach efforts. This survey provides a quick overview of what's ahead in terms of state HAVA planning and outreach to young voters.

Overall, the survey results provide just a small snapshot of the young voter outreach work taking place around the country. A wide variety of other government, academic, and nonprofit organizations are carrying out this kind of work with commendable results. It is important for these organizations to have a clearinghouse where they can obtain state election contacts and other resources. NASS and Youth Vote hope the content of this document will help serve that purpose.

Best,

Mary Kiffmeyer, Minnesota Secretary of State
2003-2004 NASS President

Veronica De La Garza
Executive Director, Youth Vote Coalition

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Youth Outreach Programs:

72% of states conduct youth outreach of some variety.

Partnerships:

The most popular partnerships are with the National Student/Parent Mock Elections, Kids Voting USA, and Rock the Vote.

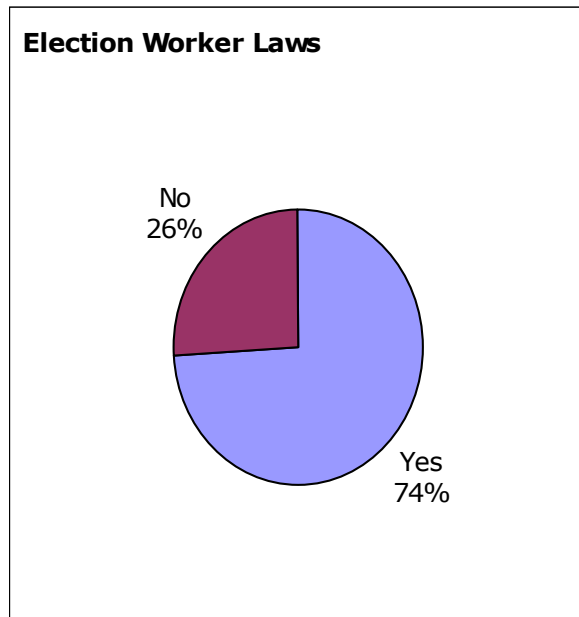
Capitol Forum	10%
Close Up Foundation	23%
Kids Voting USA	54%
NASS Vote America	28%
National Student/Parent Mock Election	67%
Newspapers in Education	10%
Rock the Vote	38%
Smackdown Your Vote	31%
Youth Vote Coalition	10%
Youth-e-Vote/Freedoms Answer	21%
YMCA Youth	15%
Vote for America	5%

Working with local/county election offices to help promote voting:

85% of Secretary of State offices partner with local/county offices to help promote voting among young people.

Election Day workers under 18:

74% of states have laws that allow for Election Day workers under the age of 18.



Partnering with Schools:

87% of state offices partner with schools to promote voting among young people.

Partnering with Community Organizations:

80% of state offices partner with community organizations to promote voting among young people.

Methods of reaching Youth about Voting:

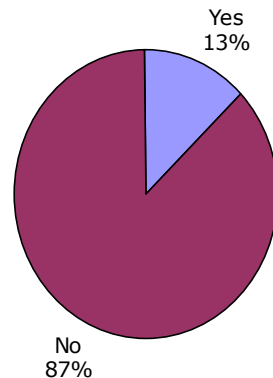
56% of state offices use Citizenship Presentations to reach out to young voters;
69% of state offices use Internet Resources to reach out to young voters;
38% of state offices display voting equipment to potential young voters;
67% of state offices use PSA's and/or Radio spots to reach out to young voters;

Ages of Focus:

59% of state offices work with Elementary age youth to promote voting;
90% of state offices work with High School age youth to promote voting;
72% of state offices work with College age youth to promote voting;

Same-day Registration:

Only 13% of states have same-day registration laws, and 31% of the states that do not have same-day registration have put forward legislative proposals to do so.

Same-day Registration**HAVA Voter Education Programs:**

72% of state offices plan to introduce new voter education programs for teens/or twenty-somethings as a result of HAVA funding.

STATES BY STATE LIST OF POLL WORKER LAWS

**This list includes only those states and U.S. territories that responded to the survey*

States with election laws that allow Poll Workers under the age of 18		
	YES	NO
Alabama		x
Alaska		x
Arizona		x
Arkansas	x	
California	x	
Colorado	x	
Connecticut	x	
Delaware		x
Florida	x	
Georgia	x	
Hawaii	x	
Idaho	x	
Illinois	x	
Indiana	x	
Iowa		x
Kansas	x	
Maine	x	
Maryland	x	
Michigan	x	
Minnesota	x	
Mississippi	x	
Missouri	x	
Montana	x	
Nebraska	x	
Nevada	x	
New Hampshire	x	
New Mexico		x
North Carolina	x	
North Dakota	x	
Ohio		x
Pennsylvania	x	
Rhode Island		x
South Carolina	x	
Texas		x
Utah	x	
Vermont	x	
Washington	x	
West Virginia	x	
Wyoming		x

STATE-BY-STATE LIST OF SAME-DAY REGISTRATION

**This list includes only those states and U.S. territories that responded to the survey*

States with Same-day Registration		
	YES	NO
Alabama		x
Alaska		x
Arizona		x
Arkansas		x
California		x
Colorado		x
Connecticut		x
Delaware		x
Florida		x
Georgia		x
Hawaii		x
Idaho	x	
Illinois		x
Indiana		x
Iowa		x
Kansas		x
Maine	x	
Maryland		x
Michigan		x
Minnesota	x	
Missouri		x
Mississippi		x
Montana		x
North Carolina		x
North Dakota		x
Nebraska		x
New Hampshire	x	
New Mexico		x
Nevada		x
Ohio		x
Pennsylvania		x
Rhode Island		x
South Carolina		x
Texas		x
Utah		x
Vermont		x
Washington		x
West Virginia		x
Wyoming	x	

STATE BEST PRACTICES

2003 New Millennium Program Ideas

School Civics Education Curriculum & Activities

Florida: Hernando County "Make Freedom Count" School Program

Illinois: "Let's Vote" Elementary School Election Program

Missouri: Responsible Missourians Initiative

Nebraska: Statehood Birthday Parties

Several States: Statewide School Voting Equipment Tours

Registration & Voter Education Efforts

Georgia: "Take Your Grandchild to Vote" Campaign

Michigan Online Citizens' Guide to Voting Systems

Montana: Election History Trunk Tour

Ohio: "Expect More in 2004" Tour

Oregon: Community "Engagement" Parties

Utah: Statewide College Council

Vermont: Town Government Coloring Book

Washington Voters Pamphlet Cover Art Competition

West Virginia SHARES Mock Election Program

Several States: Secretary of State Young Speakers Bureau

Several States: "Citizenship" Badges

Poll Worker Recruitment & Training Programs

California: Ventura County Adopt-a-Poll Program

Colorado: Student Poll Worker Training Program

North Carolina: College "Civics Training" Program

Several States: Youth Vote Ambassadors

2003 Programs Overview

School Civics Education & Curriculum Materials

Alaska: Let's Vote Alaska
Arkansas: Talk Back
California: C.I.V.I.C.S
Maine: Fostering Youth Involvement
Mississippi: Promote the Vote
Missouri: Responsible Missourians Initiative
Texas: Project V.O.T.E.
West Virginia: SHARES

The following State Board of Elections offices also produce statewide school civics materials:

Illinois: Let's Vote (elementary only)
South Carolina: Kids Fun Book (elementary only)

Student Poll Worker Training & Recruitment Programs

Many secretaries of state assist their county clerks and registrars in recruiting and training young people for Election Day work. However, the following state offices have produced an actual program for these purposes:

Arkansas
Colorado
Georgia
Kansas
Minnesota
Mississippi
Montana
Utah (in development)
West Virginia

The following State Board of Elections offices also coordinate student poll worker training programs:

Illinois
North Carolina
Oklahoma

2002 New Millennium Program Ideas

Arizona: X-treme Voter Guide

California: Voter Registration Theme Week

California: Santa Barbara County Student Poll Worker Program

Connecticut: Classroom Visitation Program

Delaware: The Democracy Project (for teachers)

Georgia: What Do You Think? Program

Illinois: Project Next Generation

Maine: Vote in Honor of a Vet Program

Minnesota: Election Judge Trainee Program

Ohio: "Vote" Youth PSA Campaign

Pennsylvania: Voter Hall of Fame

STATE PROFILES

STATE OF ALABAMA

Secretary of State: Nancy L. Worley

P.O. Box 5616

Montgomery, AL 36103

Phone (334) 242-7205

Fax (334) 242-4993

Email: nworley@sos.al.gov

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Vicki O. Balogh

State Election Director: Stephanie Daniels and Ward Sullivan

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election; Smackdown Your Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

In Alabama, universities and high schools are distribution points for mail-in registration forms. The secretary and her staff visit several schools systems between January and May for Government Day activities. The secretary also mailed a letter to every school system's government teachers, a mailing that included voter registration forms and voter education materials.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

The Office of Secretary of State will be working with the media to develop PSA's specifically targeted to increase voter participation among young people. The secretary will also be developing a teen/20 something website page for voter education.

STATE OF ALASKA

Lt. Governor: Loren Leman

PO Box 110015

Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Phone (907) 465-3520

Fax (907) 465-5400

Email: loren_leman@gov.state.ak.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: None

Director of Elections: Laura A. Glaiser

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

“Let’s Vote Alaska”

During the 2000 elections the Lieutenant Governor’s Office conducted a program called “Let’s Vote Alaska: New Voters for a New Millennium” which was a statewide, nonpartisan initiative to increase turnout among 18-24 year-olds. The program boosted turnout in this age group by about 48% during the election.

The “Alaska Democracy Project,” a project designed to strengthen citizenship in the classroom and community, followed this effort in 2002. The Project established a Web site to serve as a portal for civics education in the state. The site included tips developed by the League of Women Voters for growing good citizens as well as civic education links and resources.

Alaska will soon be gearing up for the 2004 elections.

STATE OF ARIZONA

Secretary of State: Janice K. Brewer

1700 W. Washington St. 7th Floor

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone (602) 542-0681

Fax (602) 542-1575

Email: jbrewer@sos.state.az.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Mary Jo Kief

Election Director: Mary Jo Kief

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; Rock the Vote; Smackdown Your Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Arizona sends birthday cards to residents turning 18 encouraging them to vote. They also work with Kids Voting USA to print bookmarks, posters, and stickers with voter registration cut-off dates on them.

STATE OF ARKANSAS

Secretary of State: Charlie Daniels

State Capitol Rm. 256

Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone (501) 682-1010

Fax (501) 682-3510

Email: general_info@sosmail.state.ar.us

Election Director:

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Carder Hawkins

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote;
Smackdown Your Vote; Yout-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

The secretary of state's office coordinates National Young Voters Month activities during a week-long promotional period in March. The office is also currently developing a new voter education program for introduction in fall 2003.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Secretary of State: Kevin Shelley

1500 11th Street, 6th Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone (916) 653-7244

Fax (916) 653-9675

Email: constituentaffairs@sos.state.ca.gov

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Laurie McBride

Election Director: John Mott Smith

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close up Foundation; Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote; Smackdown Your Vote; Youth Vote Coalition; Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer; YMCA youth & civic education programs

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

California offers a Birthday Card Mailing Program with 30,000 cards being mailed each month. Voter registration cards are provided to high schools and colleges. They also coordinate "Education Day" as a part of Voter Registration Week.

They also coordinate C.I.V.I.C.S (Community Involvement & Voting Information in Classroom Studies), a High School Poll worker Program, and the National Student/Parent Mock Election.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

California is creating programs for 4th graders, 8th graders, 12th graders, and college students with age appropriate curriculum and activities.

STATE OF COLORADO

Secretary of State: Donetta Davidson

1560 Broadway Suite 200

Denver, CO 80202

Phone (303) 894-2200

Fax (303) 869-4860

Email: sos.admin1@sos.state.co.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Lisa Doran

State Election Director: Bill Compton

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Colorado compiled an informal outreach for the last presidential election year to colleges and universities with a packet of information with an introduction, voter registration forms, and other appropriate election information tailored to college age voters.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Secretary of State: Susan Bysiewicz

210 Capitol Ave. Room 104

Hartford, CT 06106

Phone (860) 509-6200

Fax (860) 509-6209

Email: susan.bysiewicz@po.state.ct.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Tammy A. Marzik

State Election Director: Thomas Ferguson

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Capitol Forum; Close Up Foundation; National Student/Parent Mock Election;
Newspapers in Education; Rock the Vote; Smackdown Your Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Using Local Voter Registrars:

Connecticut allows each town to elect two Registrars of Voters who assist greatly in engaging young people in the electoral process. The office of the secretary also conducts regular college visits to bring the message of voter participation to youth.

Connecticut has a "check off box" on their voter registration application that asks whether young voters would like to work at the Polls on Election Day.

STATE OF DELAWARE

Secretary of State: Harriet Smith Windsor* (Not in charge of elections)

32 W. Loockerman St., M101

Dover, DE 19904

Phone (302) 739-4271

Fax (302) 739-6794

Commissioner of Elections: Frank B. Calio

Email: fcalio@state.de.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: None

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No (legislation pending)

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Delaware visits schools to demonstrate electronic voting machines and hold registrations.

STATE OF FLORIDA

Secretary of State: Glenda E. Hood

R.A. Gray Building

500 S. Bronough Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

Phone (850) 245-6500

Fax (850) 245-6125

Election Director: Ed Kast

Youth Outreach Coordinator: None

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Voter registration is offered on the office's Web site. Counties offer various programs for youth, and are required to conduct both high school and college voter registration education programs at least once a year in each public high school and on every college campus.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Secretary of State: Cathy Cox

214 State Capitol

Atlanta, GA 30334

Phone (404) 656-2881

Fax (404) 656-0513

Email: sosweb@sos.state.ga.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Alison Bracewell McCullick

Election Director: Linda Beazley/Kathy Rogers

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Georgia Council for the Social Studies; Center for Civic Education; Georgia Public Broadcasting

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Athletes, grandparents, and veterans promoting the youth vote:

Georgia uses a variety of programs to reach out to future voters in all areas of the state. From tapping into the steady streams of senior citizens who readily go the polls, to registering sports fans who attend Atlanta Braves baseball or Atlanta Beat soccer games, Georgia has develop programs to engage youth in a variety of different ways.

In April, the secretary of state's office travels around the state for *High School Voter Registration Month*. They visit schools around the state, speak with students about the importance of participation in the electoral process, demonstrate voting equipment, give PowerPoint presentations, and register eligible voters.

In February, during Black History Month, the voter education coordinators and Capitol Education staff members speak with young people about the importance of voting, with an emphasis on the 13th Amendment to the Constitution. The presentations are geared and adjusted according to age group: elementary school presentations include the reading of an age appropriate book, while middle and high school students are asked to compare and contrast the qualities

of political candidates from different periods in our history through classroom discussions. Each presentation is concluded with a demonstration of our voting equipment.

Throughout the school year, Georgia runs the Capitol Education Center (CEC) which hosts students for seminars on a variety of topics such as “Citizenship – Active Involvement in Government,” and “Federal and State Government and How it Works.”

In 2000, Georgia created an *Honoring Vets with Our Votes* program, which encourages young voters to vote in honor of a veteran. In order to boost involvement, Georgia veterans were interviewed on a tape that will be compiled to make an “Honoring Vets” video that can be used in classroom presentations.

Georgia also fully involves grandparents in their voter education process with the help of a new law that allows grandparents to take grandchildren ages 12 and under to the polls with them. Banking on the large number of older Americans that vote, Georgia has prepared an educational activity booklet that describes the different aspects of elections – complete with worksheets that can be completed with assistance from grandparents, as well as by the child alone.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

The secretary’s office is currently developing a poll worker program that is aimed specifically at 16-24 year-olds. Secretary Cox plans to work with the counties to encourage young people to work at the polls on Election Day, as well as volunteer at other election-related events, such as voter registration drives and debates.

STATE OF HAWAII

Chief Elections Officer: Dwayne D. Yoshina

802 Lehua Avenue

Pearl City, Hawaii

Phone (808) 453-8683

Fax (808) 453-6006

Email: elect@aloha.net

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Estelle Allen

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; Smackdown Your Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

“How to Vote” voter education presentations:

The Office of Elections in Hawaii provides “How to Vote” voter education presentations to community organizations who serve young adults. They offer voter information on their Web site: www.hawaii.gov/elections.

The Hawaii Department of Education, Kids Voting Hawaii, and the Office of Elections have also teamed together to create a voting-related curriculum guide available to teachers statewide.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

As a part of their HAVA planning, Hawaii will implement a program aimed at educating citizens statewide about election and voting related information, and promoting voter registration among districts with low registration/voter turnout rates.

STATE OF IDAHO

Secretary of State: Ben Ysursa

Statehouse

Boise, ID 83720

Phone (208) 334-2300

Fax (208) 334-2282

Email: bysursa@idsos.state.id.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: None

State Elections Director: Tim Hurst

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? Yes

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

The state does not coordinate any programs at this time.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

Idaho plans to develop outreach programs at the state level and distribute materials to the counties. Plans include recruiting young people as poll workers, mailing registration cards to 18 year olds on their birthday, PSA's, and working with schools to get more young people interested in the election process.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

Secretary of State: Jesse White (not responsible for elections)

State Board of Elections

1020 S. Spring Street

Springfield, IL 62704

Phone (217) 782-4141

Fax (217) 524-5574

Email: bglazier@elections.state.il.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Becky Glazier

State Election Director: Dan White

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Mock Election and Let's Vote: Statewide Mock Election Program:

In coordination with Kids Voting USA and the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois State Board of Elections has created a statewide mock election program designed for fourth through twelfth graders.

There is also a new addition called "Let's Vote!," a kindergarten through 3rd grade program designed to acquaint young students with the election process by conducting a mock election using animals as candidates. In addition to introducing young students to elections by using animals as candidates, "Let's Vote!" includes teacher background materials, a related coloring book and optional ballot for Governor of Illinois. The corresponding teacher's guide includes an appendix containing suggested ballots, polling place signs, word puzzles based on election terminology, and a maze to find the polling place.

The complete program is available and may be downloaded from the board's website at <http://www.elections.state.il.us/>

STATE OF INDIANA

Secretary of State: Rodd Rokita
200 West Washington Street, Room 201
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone (317) 232-6536
Fax (317) 233-3283
Email: trokita@sos.state.in.us
Election Director: Brad King/Kristi Robertson

Youth outreach program? No
State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes
Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No
Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Youth e-Vote/Freedom's Answer; Indiana Kids' Election

The Indiana office does not coordinate any specific outreach programs at this time.

STATE OF IOWA

Secretary of State: Chet Culver

State Capitol, Room 105

Des Moines, IA 50319

Phone (515) 281-8993

Fax (515) 242-5952

Email: sos@sos.state.ia.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Laura Larkin White

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Newspapers in Education; Youth Vote Coalition; YMCA youth & civic education programs

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

The Iowa Student Political Awareness Club (ISPAC) is a nonpartisan, statewide civic education program that works to increase political awareness and participation by young people.

ISPAC-sponsored programs include:

- Capitol Project – a four-day program held at the State Capitol that offers the students an opportunity to learn first-hand about state government and the legislative process.
- Mock Elections – classrooms discuss campaign and policy issues, seek answers from and interact with candidates, and cast their vote; voter guides are distributed to participating classrooms.
- Capitol Youth Day – full-day program that offers classrooms the opportunity to visit the Capitol, meet elected officials, and attend a learning session (high school – basics of lobbying; middle school – the voting process & mock election)
- Legislative Youth Forums – held with state legislators during the session to give the students the opportunity to learn more about youth-related legislation (forums held over the Iowa Communications Network (ICN))
- ISAPCaucus & Forums – classroom caucuses and statewide forums (forums held over the ICN)
- ISPAC Newsletter – publication featuring information on civic education and youth activities

STATE OF KANSAS

Secretary of State: Ron Thornburgh
First Floor, Memorial Hall, 120 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66612-1594
Phone (785) 296-4575
Fax (785) 368-8033
Email: ront@kssos.org
Youth Outreach Coordinator: Jesse Borjon
Election Director: Brad Bryant

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; Smackdown Your Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Kansas conducts annual voter registration drives at area colleges and at state fairs. They also have a Student Election Worker Program that provides the opportunity to participate in government, and learn about the electoral process.

STATE OF MAINE

Secretary of State: Dan Gwadosky

148 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0148

Phone (207) 626-8400

Fax (207) 287-8598

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Denise Garland

Email: denise.garland@maine.gov

State Election Director:

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? Yes

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Smackdown Your Vote; Youth Vote Coalition

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Fostering Youth Involvement in Maine:

Fostering Youth Involvement is the umbrella name for the secretary of state's youth outreach efforts, which include activities for elementary, middle and high school students. The program facilitates participation in our democracy, encourages students to be informed and active citizens, and stresses the importance of the contributions they can make when they choose to get involved. Projects of the program include mock elections, citizenship awards, and speakers Bureau.

STATE OF MARYLAND

Secretary of State: R. Karl Aumann (not responsible for elections)

16 Francis Street

Annapolis, MD 21032

Phone (410) 974-5521

Fax (410) 974-5190

Youth Outreach Coordinator:

State Election Director: Linda H. Lamone

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; Rock the Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Maryland does not conduct any statewide outreach programs, however the state has mandated that all voters receive a specimen ballot by mail prior to each general election. This document provides instructions on the voting process, a sample of the ballot, information on ballot questions, poll hours, and poll location.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Secretary of State: Terri Lynn Land

430 West Allegan

Lansing, MI 48918

Phone (517) 373-2510

Fax (517) 373-0727

Email: landt@michigan.gov

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Shana Long

State Election Director: Chris Thomas

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

The secretary of state sends all Michigan citizens who turn 18 a birthday greeting and a reminder that they are now eligible to register and vote. The postcard directs the newly eligible voter to the mail-in voter registration application form provided on the secretary of state's website.

The secretary, in cooperation with the Presidents Council of State Universities of Michigan, the Association of Independent College and Universities of Michigan and the Michigan Community College Association, sends a specially developed email message to all university and college students to provide them with pertinent registration and voting information.

In the area of voter education, Michigan has done the following:

- (1) The secretary of state has established an Internet based instructional system that voters can use to learn what type of voting equipment is employed in their jurisdiction of residence and how it operates. The site utilizes video clips, slides, audio and printed text.
- (2) The secretary of state has established an Internet based informational guide that voters can use to learn about the political parties, state level candidates and statewide ballot proposals on the ballot. Candidates and political parties are invited to post statements on the site. Candidates are also extended the opportunity to post a photograph on the site.

- (3) The secretary of state has partnered with Publius.com to establish an Internet based informational site that voters can use to preview their ballot for November general elections, confirm their registration status, obtain information on the location of their polling place (including a map), link to candidate websites and obtain other election related information. Both the Citizens Guide to Voting Systems and the Electronic Voter Guide are linked to the Voter Information Center. The Voter Information Center in tandem with the Citizens Guide to Voting Systems and Electronic Voter Guide provides Michigan voters with the most comprehensive online election information available anywhere in the nation.
- (4) The secretary of state regularly develops public service announcements on registering and voting for distribution to all media outlets in the State.
- (5) The secretary of state prints and distributes a voter information brochure prior to every election cycle, which provides concise information on registering to vote, obtaining absentee ballots and voting in the polls.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Secretary of State: Mary Kiffmeyer

174 State Office Bldg.

Saint Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 282-2436

Fax (651) 215-0682

Email: secretary.state@state.mn.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Kent Kaiser

State Election Director: Kent Kaiser

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? Yes

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; Rock the Vote; Smackdown Your Vote; YMCA youth & civic education programs

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Minnesota distributes an "Elections 101" brochure to county auditors and to schools that includes a voter registration card for students. They run PSA's to encourage young people to register and vote. They also have a promotional effort to enlist 16-17 year-olds as election judge trainees and to enlist college students as regular election judges. They use media releases, brochures, and visits to schools and campuses across the state.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

Minnesota would like to expand on their current programs, especially their college student election judge recruitment program. They would also like to consider a mailing to all 18-year olds encouraging them to register and vote.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Secretary of State: Eric Clark

P.O. Box 136

Jackson, MS 39205

Phone (601) 359-6346

Fax (404) 359-6346

Email: administrator@sos.state.ms.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Rebecca Huston

Election Director: Leslie Scott

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Promoting the Vote in Mississippi:

The Mississippi Secretary of State sponsors the *Promote the Vote* program, a K-12 voter education program that engages and educates young citizens in and about the democratic process. Through the combination of early voter education, extracurricular activities, and a statewide mock election Mississippi has been able to put together a student voter education program that TIME Magazine and the National Student/Parent have recognized as the best in the country.

The centerpiece of the *Promote the Vote* program is the statewide mock election in which students in grades K-12 are able to demonstrate their understanding of and appreciation for the voting privileges afforded to them. Mock election ballots are distributed and results are compiled and published by the secretary of state's office. An emphasis is placed on registering fellow students who will be eligible to vote in the upcoming elections.

The program begins with an education component that ties in closely with the Mississippi Social Studies framework by providing a full set of curriculum and activities designed to be developmentally appropriate and unique to each grade level. Throughout the process, students are given an opportunity to express individual ideas about the democratic process and be recognized for their outstanding achievement. Schools registering the greatest number of new voters are recognized at a statewide *Promote the Vote* awards program held at the end of the school year.

This office reported the creation of the following HAVA youth initiatives:

Mississippi plans on applying for available grants that support voter education for youth and expanding their existing programs under *Promote the Vote*.

STATE OF MISSOURI

Secretary of State: Matt Blunt

Room 208, State Capitol Building

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone (573) 751-2379

Fax (573) 751-2490

Email: bluntm@sosmail.state.mo.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Trent Summers

State Election Director: Betsy Myers/Gayla Vandelicht

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer; Missouri First Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

The Responsible Missourians Initiative:

In response to the alarming decline in young voter participation in elections, Missouri created the K-12 citizenship education program called *Responsible Missourians Initiative*. The initiative focuses on providing information and teaching resources to the schools in Missouri. All Missouri teachers and school administrators receive a copy of teaching plans this fall, in time to encourage registration and participation for the 2004 elections. The lesson plans contain information about the various voting systems in Missouri, the registration process, and an educational role-playing game for high school students on voting in polling places.

The secretary of state also serves as a volunteer on the executive board of a nonpartisan, non-profit organization called Youth Voter Corps. One of the main priorities of the Youth Voter Corps organization is to encourage young people to serve as poll workers on Election Day.

STATE OF MONTANA

Secretary of State: Bob Brown

PO Box 2002801

Helena, MT 59620

Phone (406) 444-2034

Fax (406) 444-2023

Email: sos@state.mt.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Alan Miller

Election Director: Elaine Gravely

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Montana's Youth Ambassador Program:

Montana supports a number of national and state-based voter registration, education, poll worker, election-day volunteer, and citizenship and civic engagement programs. They have started a Youth Vote Ambassador program to educate and train high school students on voter registration and on becoming full-fledged election judges.

The Montana Secretary of State and Superintendent of Public Instruction visit several dozen high schools around the state to educate them about voting, and the Secretary regularly delivers commencement addresses at high school graduations.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

Montana is working on an election history trunk to showcase to students as they travel around the state. They are planning a program this fall to visit college classes and orientations to get the work out about HAVA and voter registration. They are also in the process of visiting dozens of locations in the state to educate voters of all ages on the provisions of HAVA that will most affect them in the near future.

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Secretary of State: John A. Gale
PO Box 94608 – State Capitol Suite 2300
Lincoln, NE 68509-4608
Phone (402) 471-1572
Fax (402) 471-3237
Email: jgale@nol.org
Youth Outreach Coordinator: Sharon Hambek
State Elections Director: Neal Erickson

Youth outreach program? Yes
State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes
Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes
Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Capitol Forum; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Newspapers in Education; Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

“Nebraska Student Voter” and Secretary Visits:

Nebraska coordinates a civic engagement program called “Nebraska Student Vote” which distributes a civics curriculum to state teachers. The secretary of state also travels the state and visits with elementary and high school students.

STATE OF NEVADA

Secretary of State: Dean Heller

100 N. Carson St.

Carson City, NV 89701

Phone (775) 684-5705

Fax (775) 684-5718

Email: rlmoore@sosmail.state.nv.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Ronda Moore and Steve George

State Election Director: Ronda Moore

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

New legislation, effective October 1, 2003, will establish the Committee for Participatory Democracy as a project of the secretary of state's office. One of the goals of this committee is to focus on youth voter outreach. The state is still working to set it up, but several young people have already expressed an interest in serving on the youth sub-committee.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Secretary of State: William M. Gardner

Room 204 State House

Concord, NH 03301

Phone (603) 271-3242

Fax (603) 271-3246

Email: elections@sos.state.nh.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Ellen Dube

State Election Director: William Gardner

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? Yes

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

New Hampshire conducted "Youth Democracy" essay competitions for the 2000 election and the New Hampshire Votes Program in 2002. They also provide outreach materials and support to high schools, as well as the Boys State and Girls State youth government programs.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Secretary of State: Rebecca Vigil-Giron

State Capitol North Annex, Suite 300

Santa Fe, NM 87503

Phone (505) 827-3600

Fax (505) 827-8081

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Valarie Vigil

Director of Elections: Denise Lamb

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election;
Rock the Vote

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

New Mexico is currently developing a program in accordance with the new HAVA bill that will include voter outreach, voter participation, voter education, and a special emphasis on young voters.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Secretary of State: Elaine Marshall (does not handle elections)

NC State Board of Elections

P.O. Box 27255

Raleigh, NC 27611

Phone (919) 733-7173

Fax (919) 715-0135

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Tammy Brunner

Email: gary.bartlett@ncmail.net

State Election Director: Gary Bartlett

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker volunteer recruitment program for youth? In development

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Vote for America (formerly Democracy Compact)

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

North Carolina Community College Partnership:

North Carolina runs a civic engagement program through the NC Community College system that works with the State Board of Elections to implement specialized training and civics curriculum for the training of election officials and all interested public. It is the Board of Election's hope that it will empower more young people to participate in the voting process, as well as generate more poll workers.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

The North Carolina HAVA state plan allocates \$1.5 million for certification of election officials and another \$1 million for voter education and advocacy.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Secretary of State: Al Jaeger
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 108
Bismarck, ND 58505-0500

Phone (701) 328-2900

Fax (701) 328-2992

Email: ajaeger@state.nd.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator:

State Election Director: Cory Fong

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote

STATE OF OHIO

Secretary of State: J. Kenneth Blackwell

180 E. Broad St., 15th Floor

Columbus, OH 43266

Phone (614) 466-2057

Fax (614) 644-0649

Email: blackwell@sos.state.oh.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Conni Siegmund

State Election Director: Patricia Wolfe

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote;
Smackdown Your Vote; YMCA youth & civic education programs

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Ohio is currently working on several youth-oriented projects, including a youth voter education publication that encourages 18-24 year olds to register and vote, as well as volunteer in their community polling places.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

Ohio is currently planning an "Expect More in 2004" tour. In conjunction with the youth voter brochure and voter registration form that will be published for next year, the secretary of state will also visit high school civics classes throughout the state to give presentations about the importance of voting and how to vote.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Secretary of State: Pedro A. Cortés, Secretary of the Commonwealth

302 North Office Building

Harrisburg, PA 17120

Phone (717) 787-6458

Fax (717) 787-1734

Email: pcortes@state.pa.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Randy Davis

State Election Director: Monna Accurti

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

National Student/Parent Mock Election; “Take Your Kid to Vote” campaign sponsored by the Council for Excellence in Government

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Vote with at Vet – Register and Vote Program

In partnership with the state departments of education and military affairs, the election office sponsors a “Vote With a Vet – Register and Vote Program.” The goal of the program is to encourage voter participation among the high school voting age population, while teaching young people about Pennsylvania veterans and their sacrifices for democracy. More than 14,000 senior high school students from across the commonwealth have already participated in this program by requesting a biography from a Pennsylvania veteran and a voter registration mail application form.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Secretary of State: Matthew Brown

Room 217 State House

Providence, RI 02903

Phone (401) 222-2357

Fax (401) 222-1356

Email: mbrown@sec.state.ri.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Maria-Fernanda Escudero

State Election Director: Robert Fontaine

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Capitol Forum; Vote for America (formerly Democracy Compact); Rhode Island Latino Civic Fund

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Youth Vote Rhode Island

Youth Vote Rhode Island is Rhode Island's key civic education initiatives. The program encourages young people to register to vote and participate in the electoral process. A month-long civics education curriculum is available for the state's 11th and 12th graders. Class discussions, exercises, and storytelling all prepare students for the program's final exercise: attending the polls with their parents on Election Day and casting a "youth vote."

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Secretary of State: Mark Hammond (does not handle elections)

P.O. Box 5987

Columbia, SC 29250

Phone (803) 734-9060

Fax (803) 734-9366

Email: gbaum@scsec.state.sc.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Nell Shayler

State Election Director: Marci Andino

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Kids Voting USA; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

In South Carolina, the State Board of Elections assists county voter registration offices in preparing and/or conducting voter registration drives at high schools and clubs.

STATE OF TEXAS

Secretary of State: Gwyn Shea

PO Box 12697

Capitol Building, IE.8

Austin, TX 78711

Phone (512) 463-5770

Fax (317) 475-2761

Email: amcgeeahan@sos.state.tx.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Kim Sutton

Election Director: Ann McGeehan

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

NASS Vote America; National Student/Parent Mock Election; Rock the Vote;
Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach programs:

Project V.O.T.E (Voters of Tomorrow through Education):

Texas uses a program called Project V.O.T.E consisting of a 600+ page curriculum for pre-K through 12th grade, including a gifted and talented section and mock election component. The program is designed to help students become knowledgeable, responsible voters at an early age. This statewide, nonpartisan voter education program is designed to promote voter participation by introducing students to the mechanics of the electoral process through hands-on learning.

Texas also runs an extensive student mock election for gubernatorial and presidential elections. Mock election packets are mailed to every district in the state containing the mock election curriculum, ballots (the ballots for elementary age students have photographs of the candidates, "I Voted" stickers, and mock voter registration applications. Young people are also involved in the process through a highly successful student essay contest. The students submit essays to the Office of the Secretary of State to be reviewed and rated by a panel of judges appointed by the secretary. Winners are invited to the capital for a special media event with the secretary.

STATE OF UTAH

Secretary of State: Olene S. Walker

115 State Capitol

Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Phone (801) 538-1041

Fax (801) 538-1133

Email: elections@utah.gov

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Katie Foutz

State Election Director: Amy Naccarato

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Capitol Forum, National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Utah's College Council on Civic Awareness:

The College Council on Civic Awareness consists of one representative from each college and university in the state who meets monthly in the lieutenant governor's office to discuss civic awareness among 18-24 year-olds. Each council member also represents an organization on his or her own college campus that plans civic and voter outreach programs. The College Council also coordinates an annual weeklong voter registration drive that incorporates political rallies, guest speaker events, dances, and barbecues.

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

The mission of the College Council will be expanded to include a poll worker recruitment program and a training component that helps voters and election judges learn new poll technology.

STATE OF VERMONT

Secretary of State: Deb Markowitz

26 Terrace St.

Montpelier, VT 05609

Phone (802) 828-2148

Fax (802) 828-2496

Email: dmarko@sec.state.vt.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Sarah Alberghini

State Election Director: Kathleen DeWolfe

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; Kids Voting USA; NASS Vote America; Newspapers in Education; Smackdown Your Vote; Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

Vermont promotes voter registration drives during commencement and participates in national high school registration activities in the spring. The secretary of state's office also offers a voting video that is run on local television stations, as well as a "promote the vote" program with colleges that focuses on the use of absentee ballots.

STATE OF WASHINGTON

Secretary of State: Sam Reed

PO Box 40220

Olympia, WA 98504

Phone (360) 902-4180

Fax (360) 664-4619

Email: elections@secstate.wa.gov

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Shawn Merchant

State Election Director: Dean Logan

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

NASS Vote America; Smackdown Your Vote; YMCA youth & civic education programs

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

The VOTE Program and Inspiring Civic Pride:

Washington's VOTE Program provides voting and election information to children and young adults in a fun and intriguing way. It was designed to be a "new-century" educational tool that uses the Internet to effectively deliver curriculum. Along with the lesson plans, each category has a "fun and games" section with puzzles, quizzes and word games that build on the civic-responsibility themes. For more information you can visit <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections>.

Washington also holds two separate contests for students. The first contest is a fifth grade art contest where students submit artwork to be considered for the official Washington State Voters Pamphlet. The second is an essay contest aimed at high school seniors who are urged to write an essay on how "every vote counts."

This office reported the creation of the following new HAVA-related youth initiatives:

Washington is currently working with county officials and high schools to create student election ballots similar real election ballots. The secretary of state's office is going to create a PDF Internet file that will have ballot templates for counties to customize.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Secretary of State: Joe Manchin

Building 1, Suite 157-K
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East

Phone (304) 558-6000

Fax (304) 558-0900

Email: scosco@wvsos.com

Youth Outreach Coordinator: Scott Cosco

Election Director: Cindy Smith

Youth outreach program? Yes

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? Yes

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? Yes

Same-day Registration? No

This office works with the following national outreach partners: None

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

West Virginia SHARES:

The SHARES program is a comprehensive outreach program designed to engage middle and high school student in the electoral process. It involves all aspects of election education, including registration, voting and volunteering.

As part of the West Virginia SHARES program, each high school nominates six seniors to serve as SHARES Ambassadors, whose primary objective is to register 100 percent of their eligible seniors to vote. Schools that achieve 100 percent senior registration become Voter Registration Schools of Excellence and qualify for the Jennings Randolph Award. SHARES High School Ambassadors, as well as all students age 16 or older, are encouraged to work as poll worker volunteers on Election Day, and can earn up to 10 hours of community service credit toward graduation for doing so.

This program also involves working with younger students in the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. One phase brings in veterans to share their stories and encourage young people to register and vote, while a later phase includes a fifteen-minute informational video produce by the secretary of state.

Finally, all eighth grade students are asked to take part in a SHARES mock election each year. Students who participate are taught campaign finance law and student candidates use mock checks to pay for campaigning. They can also accept mock checks from students to be used as donations. All participants must be involved in one way or another, from serving as a candidate, county clerk, and county commissioner or poll worker. All students register and vote.

This office reported the creation of the following HAVA-related initiatives:

"Candid Candidate" will be an Internet-based resource with special appeal to tech-savvy young people. The website will allow people to access profiles of all candidates running for federal, statewide or legislative office. Each profile will also come with a two-minute video of the candidate describing his/her platform.

STATE OF WYOMING

Secretary of State: Joseph B. Meyer

200 W. 24th Street

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone (307) 777-5333

Fax (307) 777-6217

Email: elections@state.wy.us

Youth Outreach Coordinator: None

State Election Director: Peggy Nighswonger

Youth outreach program? No

State law allows Election-day workers under the age of 18? No

Poll worker/Election Day volunteer recruitment program for youth? No

Same-day Registration? Yes

This office works with the following national outreach partners:

Close Up Foundation; National Student/Parent Mock Election

This office coordinates its own statewide outreach program:

The office does not coordinate any programs at this time.

PARTNERSHIP PROFILES

The following listing contains short descriptions of some of the major national youth outreach partners working with state elections offices:

The Capitol Forum

The Capitol Forum on America's Future is a part of The Choices Program at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. The Forum is an experiential civic education initiative designed to give high school students a voice in public consideration of current international issues.

For more information: http://www.choices.edu/capitol_forum/index.cfm

Close Up Foundation

The Close Up Foundation is the nation's largest nonprofit (501(c)(3)), nonpartisan citizenship education organization. Close Up's mission is built on the belief that textbooks and lectures alone are not enough to help students understand the democratic process and make it work.

For more information: <http://www.closeup.org/>

Kids Voting USA

Kids Voting USA is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan, organization that fosters an informed, participating electorate by educating and actively engaging young people and their families in voting and other elements of effective civic engagement.

For more information: <http://www.kidsvotingusa.org/>

National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS): Vote America

Vote America is a nationwide public awareness campaign aimed at increasing the quality of national, state and local elections by providing Americans with state-specific voting information. NASS members helped design and create the

program's national portal -<http://www.voteamerica.info/>- a unique, one-stop shop where citizens can register, vote and find out how to volunteer on Election Day.

National Student/Parent Mock Election

The National Student/Parent Mock Election makes students and parents aware of the power of their ballot by actively involving them in a full-fledged campaign and national election.

For more information: <http://www.nationalmockelection.com/>

Newspapers in Education (NIE)

NIE Online provides online lesson plans and other innovative materials for use on NIE websites to provide valuable newspaper-oriented resources to teachers through the Internet. These resources help build repeat traffic to NIE websites and provide greater exposure to programs.

For more information: <http://nieonline.com/>

Rock the Vote

Rock the Vote was founded in 1990 by members of the recording industry in response to a wave of attacks on freedom of speech and artistic statements. Today, the campaign is dedicated to protecting freedom of speech and helping young people realize and utilize their power to affect change in the civic and political lives of their communities.

For more information: <http://www.rockthevote.org/>

Smackdown Your Vote

Smackdown Your Vote! is a partnership of nonprofit, nonpartisan organizations working to encourage young people to get involved in the political process and vote. The members of Smackdown Your Vote! include the League of Women Voters, the National Foundation for Women Legislators, Close Up, Youth Vote Coalition, Youth e-Vote, Project Vote Smart, and WWE, Inc.

For more information: <http://www.smackdownyourvote.com/>

Youth Vote Coalition

Youth Vote Coalition is the nation's largest non-partisan coalition working to increase the political involvement of 50 million Americans, 18-30 years old. The Youth Vote coalition consists of over one hundred diverse national organizations representing hundreds of organizations and millions of young people.

For more information: <http://www.youthvote.org/>

Youth-e-Vote/Freedom's Answer

Freedom's Answer is a non-profit/non-partisan program that gives high school students opportunities to participate in the political system.

For more information: <http://www.freedomanswer.net/>

YMCA Youth & Civic Education Programs

The YMCA Civic Engagement Initiative is the vehicle through which the YMCA is promoting the development of civic engagement attitudes, skills, and behaviors in young people. The initiative is designed to reach young people directly and connect them to specific opportunities to act while simultaneously motivating and improving the ability of the YMCA and the "civic engagement community" (political parties, nonprofit organizations, the media, high schools, colleges and universities) to engage young people in civic life.

For more information: <http://www.ymcacivicengagement.org/>

Vote for America (formerly Democracy Compact)

The Vote for America model was piloted in Rhode Island during the 2000 elections, bringing thousands of new voters to polls. The organization recently launched operations in Georgia and North Carolina.

For more information: <http://www.voteforamerica.org/>