



NASS Resolution on Voting Information for Military and Overseas Citizens on the Web

Approved July 19, 2004

Amended and Approved July 19, 2009

WHEREAS, members of the Uniformed Services, including the United States Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, are serving the United States in many locations throughout the world today;

WHEREAS, members of the Uniformed Services are making extraordinary personal sacrifices in service to the United States to promote and defend democracy;

WHEREAS, many overseas citizens are serving in the Peace Corps, doing missionary work, working in the foreign service field, attending school or pursuing work in an international field;

WHEREAS, the most precious right of a democracy is the right to vote;

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution guarantees the right to vote to all citizens who are of legal age on Election Day;

WHEREAS, the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) made significant changes to federal election laws affecting absentee voting by uniformed and overseas citizens;

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) Web site provides and maintains election information specifically focused on assisting voters covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), including a link to each state's elections Web site with specific elections information regarding UOCAVA voting;

WHEREAS, NASS members are committed to assuring that all qualified citizens can have their right to vote facilitated by state election officials through the most modern and secure technologies available;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Defense has developed the Electronic Alternative Project, which allows for an automated version of the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) embedded with state-specific requirements, producing a printable, PDF file in a safe and secure fashion (and this system allows states to receive registration/ballot requests and provide blank ballots via a secure server);

WHEREAS, a safe and secure electronic alternative is necessary to simplify and expedite voting processes for UOCAVA voters, it is also important that NASS and individual states maintain election information specific to UOCAVA voters on their Web sites;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NASS requests that each state's elections Web site provide specific information for UOCAVA voters, and that each Web site provide a link to the U.S. Department of Defense Electronic Alternative Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) support the full funding of Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NASS requests that the U.S. Department of Defense and other relevant agencies (i.e. Peace Corps, U.S. State Department) communicate by email to UOCAVA voters the availability of this voter information, including a link to the NASS Web site (www.nass.org).

Adopted the 19th day of July 2009
in Minneapolis, MN

EXPIRES: Summer 2014