



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Statement from National Association of Secretaries of State President Matt Dunlap in Response to Media Reports Regarding a NASS February 2010 Conference Session and the Implementation of the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – NASS President Matt Dunlap of Maine issued the following statement regarding media reports involving a NASS February 2010 conference session and the implementation of the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act:

"The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) has just concluded its summer meeting, at which we convened the largest and most diverse group of high-ranking government, military and private sector representatives in recent history to discuss voting innovations for members of the U.S. military and civilians living abroad. This event, held on July 20, 2010, brought together more than 100 participants representing all levels of government and all branches of the U.S. military to focus on federal and state government outreach efforts and tools related to the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act, which took effect this year.

State and local election officials across the U.S. are vigorously working to ensure that military and overseas voters will be able to request and cast their ballots this November. As enacted, the MOVE Act will make it easier and faster for our military and overseas voters to request their voter registration, absentee ballot application, and blank ballot forms electronically. It will also address some of the problems that have traditionally prevented their ballots from arriving on time, or being counted.

This is important to our members, and it is the right thing to do. That is why NASS members have devoted a great deal of time to this subject at our conferences this year. The MOVE Act was the focus of two full conference sessions at our February 2010 meeting, and as I have already mentioned, we dedicated an entire day of programming to state plans for implementing the law at our 2010 summer meeting.

In addition, NASS has adopted a number of resolutions in support of protecting the voting rights of military and overseas citizens, and ensuring that their votes are counted. You can find them online at [www.nass.org](http://www.nass.org)."

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