VOTING TECHNOLOGY AND STATE POLICY 2016

By Katy Owens Hubler
Democracy Research, LLC
Consultant for the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

What Does NCSL Do?

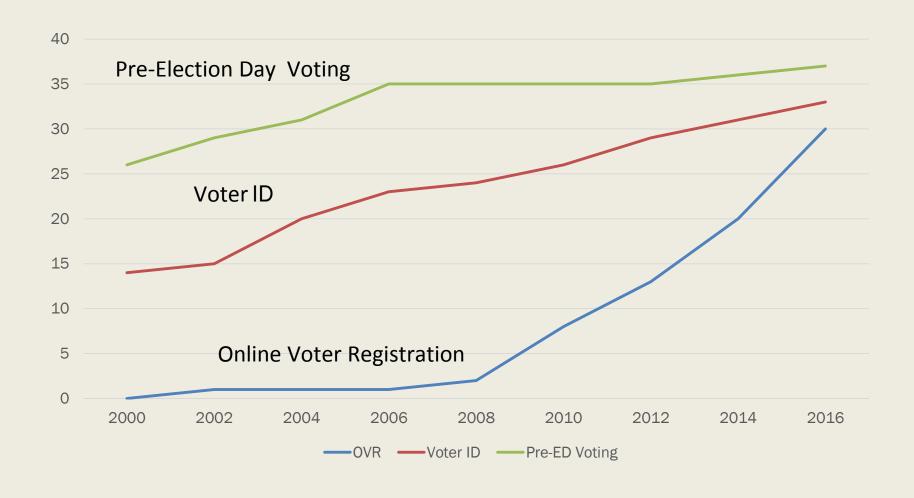
- Serves 7,383 legislators and 25,000 legislative staff
- Provides non-partisan research & analysis
- Links legislators with each other and with experts
- Speaks on behalf of state legislatures in D.C.

What I'll Discuss

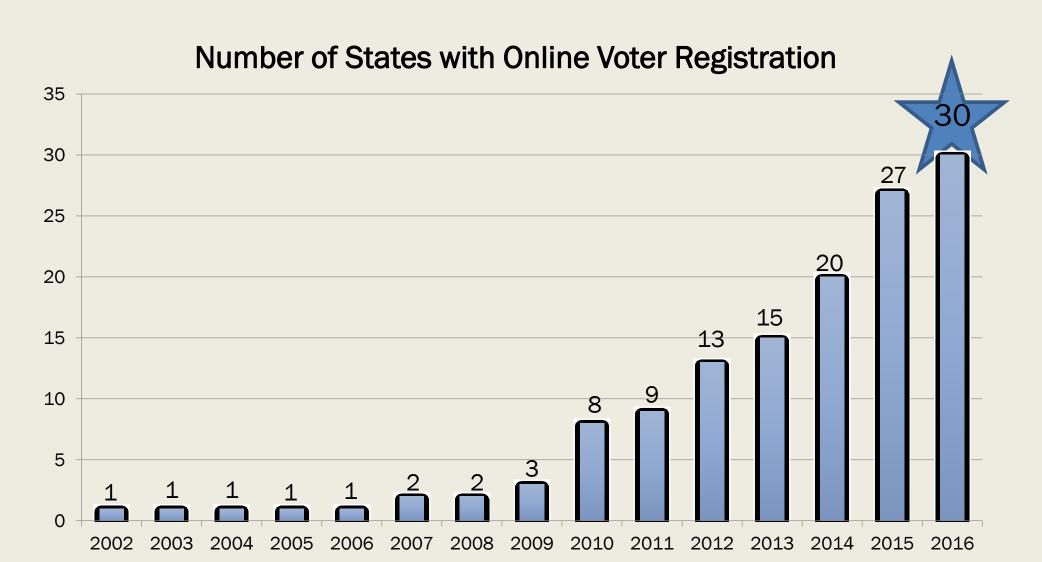
Recent legislative trends in voting technology

Purchasing and funding options being considered by states

Recent Legislative Trends



Online Voter Registration (the biggest issue in 2015)



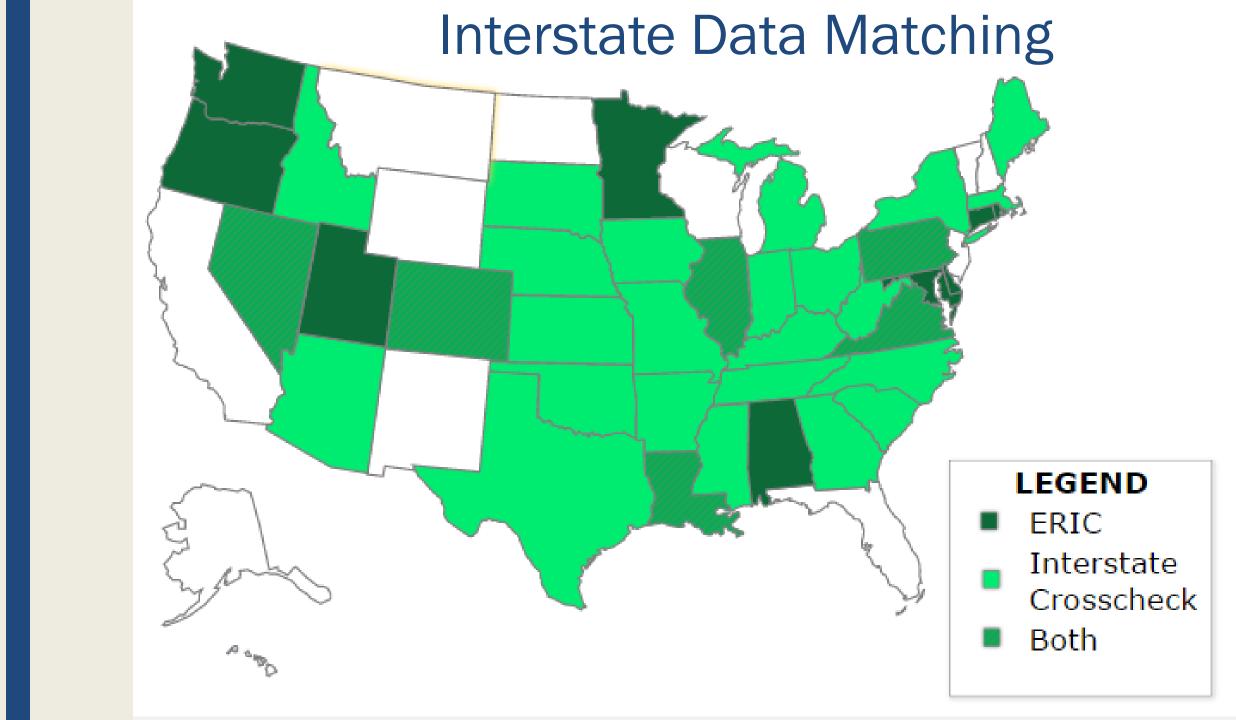
- Other states considering online registration this year
 - New Hampshire
 - New York
 - Ohio

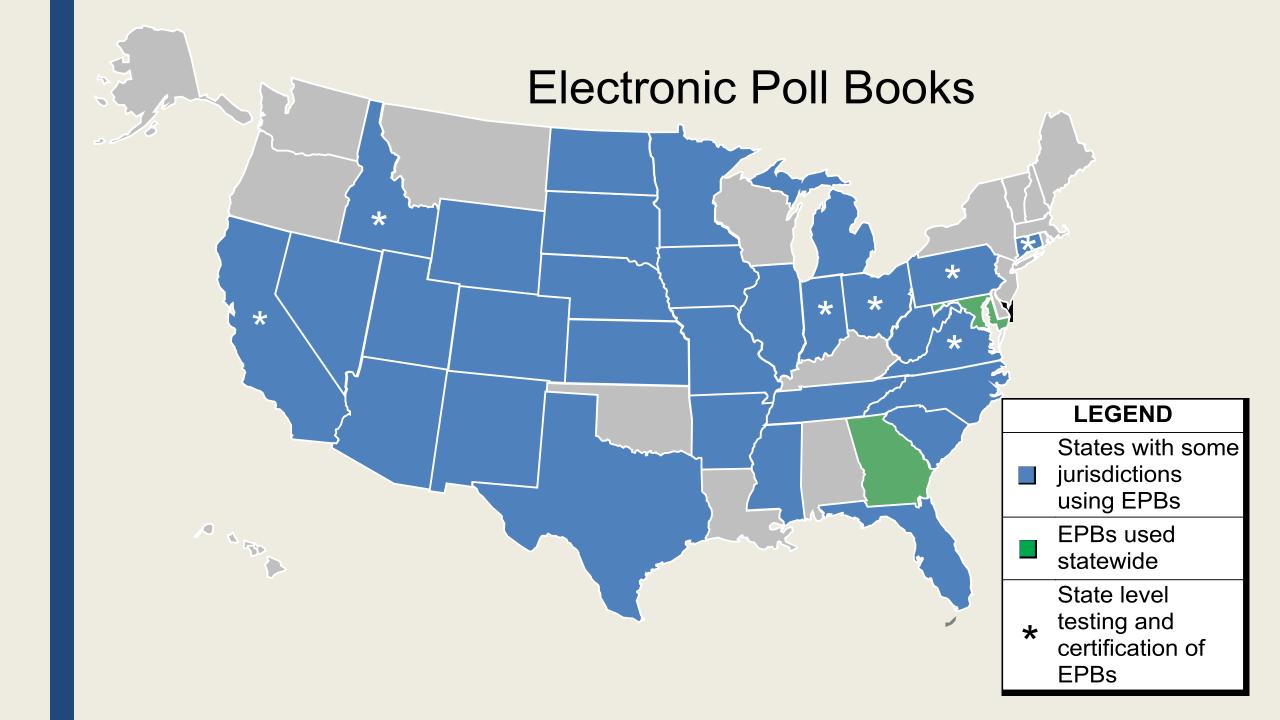
- Rhode Island
- Tennessee
- Wisconsin

Automatic registration

List Maintenance: Within a State

- Virginia
 - Dept. of Health (death records)
 - State Police (felon records)
 - U.S. Attorney's Office (felon records)
 - Central Criminal Records Exchange (felon records)
 - State Circuit Courts (mental incompetency)
 - Dept. of Motor Vehicles (SSN; non-citizen records)
 - Bureau of Vital Statistics (death records)
 - USPS (street address records)
 - SAVE Program (citizenship verification)
 - Interstate crosschecks





Ballot-on-Demand

- California: must be certified by state
- Tennessee: must have approval from state to use
- Ohio: setting some requirements
- Colorado: requires use of ballot-on-demand ballots during pre-election testing

Ballot Marking Devices

- California: must be certified by the state
- States that set requirements in statute:
 - Colorado, New York, West Virginia
- Arkansas: incorporates ballot marking device into its definition of a voting machine

Electronic Ballot Transmission

Web Portal: (5)	Alabama Missouri	Alaska North Dakota	Arizona
Email or Fax: (21+DC)	Colorado Idaho Kansas Mississippi Nevada North Carolina South Carolina West Virginia	Delaware Indiana Maine Montana New Jersey Oklahoma Utah	District of Columbia lowa Massachusetts Nebraska New Mexico Oregon Washington
<u>Fax:</u> (6)	California Louisiana	Florida Rhode Island	Hawaii Texas
None (Mail): (18)	Arkansas Illinois Michigan New York South Dakota Virginia	Connecticut Kentucky Minnesota Ohio Tennessee Wisconsin	Georgia Maryland New Hampshire Pennsylvania Vermont Wyoming

Electronic Ballot Transmission Legislation

- Calling for studies or pilots
 - Introduced in several states, enacted in Texas
- Expanding it to voters other than military/overseas
 - Voters with disabilities: Utah (enacted), Montana (failed)
 - Out-of-state college students: Kansas (pending),
 Mississippi (failed)
 - Emergency first responders: New Mexico, Missouri (failed)
 - Any registered voter: Hawaii (pending)

Post-Election Audits

- More than half of states have statutorily required post-election audits
 - Introduced this year in Kansas
- Automated audits
 - Authorized by Connecticut and New York in 2015
- Risk-limiting audits
 - Colorado moving that way by 2017
 - California pilots
 - Bill failed in Rhode Island in 2015

Other Recent Bills of Interest

- Election Technology Commissions
- Biometric ID
 - 2015: NM (failed)
 - 2016: OK "computerized finger image" for voter registration (introduced)

Voting Systems

- Most states use some aspect of the EAC's testing and certification program:
 - 12 states require full federal certification
 - 9 and D.C. require testing to federal standards
 - 16 states require testing by a federally accredited laboratory
 - 4 states refer to federal agencies or standards, but do not fall into the categories above
 - 9 states have no statutes or regulations that mention a federal agency, certification program, laboratory, or standard, but most of these still rely on the federal program for guidance

Aging Voting Equipment

- The majority of jurisdictions across the country bought equipment between 2002 and 2008.
- Now many of these systems are aging – whose responsibility is it to purchase new ones?
- HAVA state plans concentrated much of the power/responsibility of purchasing on the states.



Making a Choice *Popular Science Monthly*, November 1920

Potential Funding Streams: Ways States are Helping

- Direct appropriation for statewide bulk purchase
- Funding split 50/50 between state and counties
- State negotiating contract
- Dedicated revenue through fees
- Grant programs to counties

Potential Funding Streams: Local Jurisdictions

- Capital requests
- Budgeting over time
- Using county funds to buy in bulk

Other Things Being Considered to Manage Costs

- Leasing
- COTS
- Open source software

Questions?

Katy Owens Hubler

435-647-6051

katyowenshubler@democracyresearch.com