Voting System Standards/Guidelines

Section 221(e) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) provides that the 2002 Voting System Standards adopted by the Federal Election Commission are deemed to be adopted by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) as the first set of voluntary voting system guidelines adopted under HAVA.

HAVA establishes a Technical Guidelines Development Committee (TGDC), Chaired by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to assist the EAC in the development of new or updated voluntary voting systems guidelines, and requires the TGDC to provide its first set of recommendations on these guidelines to the Executive Director of the EAC not later than nine months after all of its members have been appointed.

The Executive Director of the EAC is required to submit the guidelines proposed by the TGDC for adoption to:

- the EAC Board of Advisors; and
- the Executive Board of the EAC Standards Board, which is required to review the guidelines and forward its recommendations to the full Standards Board.

The Board of Advisors and the Standards Board are then required to review these guidelines and to submit comments and recommendations to the EAC.

The EAC is required to carry out the final adoption of the voluntary voting systems guidelines by providing for:

- A publication of notice of the proposed guidelines in the Federal Register;
- An opportunity for public comment on the proposed guidelines;
- An opportunity for a public hearing on the record; and
- A publication of the final guidelines in the Federal Register.

The EAC may not vote on the final adoption of a guideline until the expiration of the 90-day period that begins on the date the proposed guidelines are submitted to the Board of Advisors and the Standards Board. A majority vote (3 of the 4 Commissioners) is required to adopt a voluntary voting systems guideline. A voluntary voting systems guideline is not considered to be finally adopted by the EAC unless the EAC votes to approve the final adoption taking into consideration the comments and recommendations submitted by the Board of Advisors and the Standards Board.

Documents labeled [Word] are provided in Microsoft Word file format; Microsoft Word is available from Microsoft.

2002 Voting Systems Standards
(as developed by the Federal Election Commission):

- Overview [Word]
- Volume I: Performance Standards
  - Section 1 - Introduction [Word]
  - Section 2 - Functional Capabilities [Word]
  - Section 3 - Hardware [Word]
  - Section 4 - Software [Word]
  - Section 5 - Telecommunications [Word]
  - Section 6 - Security [Word]
  - Section 7 - Quality Assurance [Word]
  - Section 8 - Configuration Management [Word]
  - Section 9 - Overview of Qualification Testing [Word]
Volume II, Testing Standards

- Section 1 - Introduction [Word]
- Section 2 - Technical Data Package [Word]
- Section 3 - Functionality Testing [Word]
- Section 4 - Hardware Testing [Word]
- Section 5 - Software Testing [Word]
- Section 6 - System Integration Testing [Word]
- Section 7 - CM & QA Testing [Word]
- Appendix A - Qualification Test Plan [Word]
- Appendix B - Qualification Test Report [Word]
- Appendix C - Qualification Test Design Criteria [Word]