EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Voting Equipment Selection Committee Request for Proposal

As assigned by Lt. Gov. Gayle McKeachnie, the Voting Equipment Selection Committee (VESC) has prepared and released a request for proposal for a statewide voting solution. The RFP is specific in its requirements but does not limit its criteria to one type of voting system. Any company with the ability to implement a statewide voting solution that meets the criteria of the RFP is welcome to submit a proposal.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

For a proposal to be considered the system must meet all the requirements outlined in the mandatory requirements section. These requirements include, but are not limited to:

- **Security and Accuracy** – A voting solution must record and report the record of each vote cast, detect and correct any errors, retain votes cast prior to a system failure (should one occur) and detect tampering. A voting solution must have logic and accuracy testing and a system audit log. The company must also permit an independent security analysis for the voting solution and allow the source code for the solution to be held in escrow.
- **Help America Vote Act Compliance** – A voting solution must be accessible to voters with disabilities and ensure they can vote independently. A voting solution must also alert each voter of under and over votes and process provisional ballots appropriately.
- **Utah Election Practice Accommodation** – A voting solution must be able to accommodate closed primaries, multi-member districts, write-in votes, straight party voting, split precincts, combined precincts, absentee and early voting and recounts.
- **Ease of Use** – A voting solution must be user friendly for poll workers, election officials and all voters, including voters with disabilities.
- **Election Management** – A voting solution must allow election administrators to define and create ballots, print and extract records, report election night and canvass results to the state web site, access data and receive support from the vendor. The vendor must also provide ample training and education.

WRITTEN EVALUATION

All written proposals from vendors who meet the mandatory requirements will be evaluated by the VESC. The written proposals should describe how the proposed voting solution addresses each of the following categories:

- **Cost** – The state of Utah desires a cost efficient voting solution.
- **Security and Accuracy** – The state of Utah desires a voting solution that insures an accurate and verifiable count of the ballots cast. This includes the ability of the system to guard against tampering, unauthorized access and operator errors. This may also include the capability to provide a voter verified paper ballot. NO System will be considered that cannot demonstrate and inspire confidence in the accuracy of the vote.

- **Ability to Support Voting System** – The state of Utah desires to work with a vendor with the experience and financial capacity to handle the statewide purchase of a voting solution. This includes support and training of elections officials.
- **Election Management** – The state of Utah desires a voting solution that has an Election Management System (EMS) which consists of the hardware and software required to accomplish the functions of conducting an election from start to finish.
- **Ease of Use and Accessibility** – The state of Utah desires a voting solution that is easy for election officials, poll workers and voters to use. In addition to being user-friendly, the voting solution must also allow voters with disabilities to vote independently and in secret..
- **Reliability and Durability** – The state of Utah desires a voting solution that is reliable and durable. This includes service-ability, storage-ability and preventative maintenance.

Next to cost, which state law requires to be weighted at 30 percent, the security and accuracy category is weighed most heavily in this evaluation. Following the conclusion of the written evaluation, the two to four vendors receiving the highest point total in the written evaluation will be invited to participate in a demonstration.

DEMONSTRATION

The demonstration will require each vendor to instruct and assist election officials in the preparation and administration of a mock election operated on their voting solution, as well as demonstrate the security features of the solution. A cross section of the public will be asked to participate in the mock election. The mock election will be observed and evaluated by the evaluation committee. Those participating in the mock election will also complete an evaluation.

FINAL SELECTION

After evaluating the scores of both the written proposals and the demonstrations, the VESC will announce its final decision in late November 2004.