

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



Press Office
999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463
Phone: Local 202-219-4155 Toll Free 800-424-9530

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: FRED EILAND
SHARON SNYDER
SCOTT MOXLEY

MOTOR VOTER LAW IN HIGH GEAR - Groups meet to discuss options for implementation -

WASHINGTON -- The Federal Election Commission will conduct an ad hoc discussion group on the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 this Friday and Saturday, June 25 and 26, at the Hotel Washington, Washington, D.C. The group's discussions will cover various aspects of the Motor Voter Act: a review of the law's requirements, the roles various federal agencies will have in its administration, and the range of implementation options available to states.

The ad hoc discussion group was established by the FEC through its National Clearinghouse on Election Administration. The 30-member group is composed of representatives of public interest groups from the National Motor Voter Coalition, individuals from six associations of state and local public officials, election officials from different regions of the country, and representatives from six federal agencies involved in the implementation of the law.

The meeting of the group will provide a public forum that will examine what is and is not included under the Motor Voter legislation and will provide a foundation for helping the FEC in developing written information to assist states in implementing the law.

Friday morning's discussions will begin with the general requirements of the Act, possible implications of the Voting Rights Act, prosecution of election offenses, the role of the Postal Service, activities by the Department of Defense, and the responsibilities of the Federal Election Commission. The afternoon session will be devoted to motor voter registration, registration by public assistance offices, and registration by mail.

Saturday morning's discussions will concentrate on how to keep voter registration lists clean and accurate, reporting requirements, and a general overview of areas of concern.

Sessions will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, concluding at 5 p.m. Saturday's discussions will commence at 9 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. The meetings will be held in the rooftop Washington Room of the Hotel Washington, located at 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Although the discussions are intended primarily for state election officials, federal agencies affected by the Act, representatives of relevant associations and representatives of public interest groups, all other interested persons and media are welcome to attend.

Additional training and orientation workshops are to be held throughout the country in the coming months.

A listing of ad hoc discussion group members follows.

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Members of the FEC's ad hoc discussion group are:

Representatives of Federal Agencies

- Department of Agriculture:
Alberta Frost, Director, Women, Infants and Children Program
- Department of Defense:
Phyllis Taylor, Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)
(Alternate: John Uschold, Deputy Director, FVAP)
- Department of Health and Human Services:
Peter Edelman, Counselor to the Secretary
(Alternate: Caitlin Halligan, Asst. to the Counselor)
- Department of Justice:
Craig Donsanto, Director, Election Crimes Branch
Barry Weinberg, Deputy Chief, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division
(Alternate: Rebecca Wertz, Deputy Chief, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division)
- U.S. Postal Service:
Anita Bizzoto, Business Mail Acceptance Manager
(Alternate: Jerry Lease, Customer Service Support Analyst)

Election Officials

- The Honorable Richard Austin, Secretary of State - Michigan
(Alternate: Chris Thomas*, Director of Elections - Michigan)
- The Honorable Bob Babbage, Secretary of State - Kentucky
(Alternate: George Russell*, Executive Directive, Kentucky State Board of Elections)
- Emmett H. Fremaux, Jr.*, Executive Director, D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics
- Tom Harrison*, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Elections - Texas
- The Honorable Natalie Meyer, Secretary of State - Colorado
(Incoming President, National Association of Secretaries of State)
(Alternate: Donetta Davidson*, State Election Officer - Colorado)
- Dr. Ronald Michelson*, Executive Director, Illinois State Board of Elections
- The Honorable Ralph Munro, Secretary of State - Washington
(Alternate: Gary McIntosh*, State Election Director - Washington)
- Constance Slaughter-Harvey*, Assistant Secretary of State - Mississippi
- The Honorable Bob Taft, II, Secretary of State - Ohio
(Alternate: Brian Hicks, Executive Assistant to the Secretary - Ohio)
- Thomas R. Wilkey*, Executive Director, New York State Board of Elections
- Germaine Wong, Registrar of Voters, San Francisco, California

* Member of the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED)

Associations of Public Officials

- Jon Felde, General Counsel-Washington Office
National Conference of State Legislators
- Carol Garner, Director
The Election Center
- David Kass, Policy Associate
American Public Welfare Association
- Larry Naake, Executive Director
National Association of Counties
(Alternate: Larry Jones, Associate
Legislative Director)
- Tony J. Sirvello, III, Director-at-Large
for Election Officials, Int'l Ass'n of
Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials
and Treasurers (I.A.C.R.E.O.T.)
- John H. Stranquist, Executive Director
Amer. Ass'n of Motor Vehicle Administrators
(Alternate: Ann Ober, Asst. Commissioner
Virginia Dept. of Motor Vehicles)

Public Interest Group Representatives

- Becky Cain, President
League of Women Voters
- Steve Carbo, Staff Attorney
Mexican American Legal Defense
and Education Fund (MALDEF)
- Richard Cloward, Executive Director
Human SERVE/100% VOTE
(Alternate: Jo-Anne Chasnow,
Associate Director)
- Dayna Cunningham, Assistant Counsel
NAACP Legal Defense Fund
- James Dickson, Director
Disabled and Able to Vote
- Ed Hailes, Counsel - Washington Bureau
NAACP
- Sonia Jarvis, Executive Director
National Coalition on Black Voter
Participation

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