CSG’s Overseas Voting Initiative

KAMANZI G. KALISA
DIRECTOR, OVERSEAS VOTING INITIATIVE
Improving Elections for U.S. Military and Overseas Voters

The Council of State Governments launched a four year, $3.2 million Overseas Voting Initiative in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Defense’s overseas voting assistance office, the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) in 2013.
Staff

• CSG Overseas Voting Initiative’s Senior Research Associate Michelle Shafer

• CSG Overseas Voting Initiative’s Senior Technology Advisor Jared Marcotte

• CSG Overseas Voting Initiative’s Special Adviser Ann McGeehan
Policy Working Group Members

• Hon. Kim Wyman, Chair – Secretary of State, Washington

• Hon. David Stafford, Co-Chair – Supervisor of Elections, Escambia County, Florida

• Hon. Jim Condos – Secretary of State, Vermont

• Hon. Jon A. Husted – Secretary of State, Ohio

• Mr. Gary Poser – Director of Elections, Minnesota

• Mr. Keith Ingram – Director of Elections, Texas
Policy Working Group Members

• **Mr. Kevin Kennedy** – Director and General Counsel, Government Accountability Board, Wisconsin

• **Mr. Lance Gough** – Executive Director, Board of Election Commissioners, City of Chicago, Illinois

• **Mr. Michael Vu** – Registrar of Voters, San Diego County, California

• **Ms. Tammy Patrick** – Auxiliary Member, CSG Policy Working Group; Member, Presidential Commission on Election Administration; Senior Adviser of the Democracy Project, Bipartisan Policy Center
CSG’s Policy Working Group Recommendation Areas

• Voter Communication
• Federal Post Card Application
• Online Voter Registration
• Improved Engagement with U.S. Military Community
Voter Communication Recommendations

- Use plain language.
- Make effective use of election websites and social media.
- Create more user-friendly electronic ballot return envelopes.
- Communicate to voters when the ballot application is accepted.
- Provide information to voters about what is on the ballot.
Ohio SOS Jon Husted @OhioSOSHusted · 22h
Are you a Military or Overseas Voter? Sign-up here to be sure you receive updates about upcoming voting deadlines:
bit.ly/1lQQljN

7:45 AM - 6 Jan 2016 · Details
Reminder Sign-up

If you would like to receive reminders throughout the year about upcoming voting deadlines, please fill out the form below with your information.

Name

E-mail address

Type the characters you see in the picture below. If the image is broken click the green image to refresh.

XHEPK
John Merrill @JohnHMerrill · 11 Dec 2015
Enjoyed a great discussion with @KimWyman12 & @SecTreHargett concerning voter registration & military voting today.
Federal Post Card Application Recommendations

- Treat the FPCA as a permanent request for voter registration.
- Establish a default validity period for the FPCA mail ballot request.
Military or Overseas Voter? Be sure to renew your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) for 2016! Learn more here:
bit.ly/1IT0Wmx
Online Voter Registration Recommendation

• States that provide online voter registration should incorporate online registration for overseas and military voters.
Vermont Online Voter Registration

Allows all eligible Vermonters to submit application for addition to the statewide voter checklist anytime and anywhere they can access the

https://olvr.sec.state.vt.us
My Voter Page

Allows all registered Vermont voters to access information about upcoming elections in one place and, most importantly, allows voters to easily request and track the status of absentee ballots.

https://mvp.sec.state.vt.us
**Voter Information**

Voter ID: 000844599
Name: BES JONES
Date Of Birth: 01/05/1968
Legal Address:
7388 MAIN ST, WAITSFIELD 05673
Mailing Address:
7388 MAIN ST WAITSFIELD VT 05673

**UPDATE VOTER RECORD**
If you need to change your address to a different town you will need to fill out a new registration. Click here

Are you Interested in Serving as a Poll Worker?: Yes
Registration Date: 10/20/2015
Town of Residence: WAITSFIELD
Oath Taken: Yes
Voter Status: ACTIVE

**Voting Districts:**
- **Senate:** WASHINGTON (WAS)
- **House:** WASHINGTON 7 (WAS-7)

**Polling Place**

ALL Elections
WAITSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3651 MAIN STREET, WAITSFIELD VT

Get Directions
Election Day Hours
7:00 AM -

**Elections Information**

- **Town Clerk:** PIERCE, RENEE
- **Town:** WAITSFIELD
- **Address:** NINE BRIDGE STREET, WAITSFIELD VT 05673
- **Phone:** 802-496-2218
- **Fax:** 8024969284
- **Email:** WAITSFIELDCLERK@GMAVT.NET
- **WebSite:**
- **Hours of Operation:** M-F 8-12:30 & 1:30-4:30

**Absentee Ballot Request Information**

To request an Absentee Ballot - Click Below.
- Click Here for Online Absentee Ballot Request

**Absentee Ballot Status:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Election Name</th>
<th>Requested Type</th>
<th>Date Requested</th>
<th>Issue Date</th>
<th>Received Date</th>
<th>Ballot Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

No records to view.
Improved Engagement with U.S. Military Community Recommendations

• Establish partnerships between state and local election officials and local military installations.
Our right to vote is protected by the extraordinary men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces. Now is your chance to thank them for their service!

The Office of the Secretary of State invites you to recognize active military and veterans from Washington State by posting a personal story and a photo. We'll send you a pin to wear proudly in respect and gratitude for your veteran.

Submit Your Story

Search for a veteran

Name:

Click on a message to read more

Thomas B. Nichols honored by Terry Nichols
Thomas B. Nichols served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after being commissioned as a 2nd Lt when graduating from
Enjoyed meeting w/Veterans’ Caucus today to talk #militaryvoters & getting online voter registration passed in #Ohio
Ohio SOS Jon Husted @OhioSOSHusted · 16 Dec 2015
Are you a military or overseas voter? Read the latest Military & Overseas Voter Update: bit.ly/1JbPES3
Ohio SOS Jon Husted
@OhioSOSHusted

#BytheNumbers - The office has received more than 3,200 FPCAs from military & overseas voters - 48 states, 88 countries & 7 Navy ships!
On the Horizon

• The CSG Overseas Voting Initiative Technology Working Group will issue their recommendations in December 2016.

• New CSG Section B EAVS Working Group in collaboration with the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.
Contact Information

Kamanzi G. Kalisa
Director, Overseas Voting Initiative
The Council of State Governments

444 North Capitol St, NW, Suite 401
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: (202) 624-3539
Email: kkalisa@csg.org
Website: www.csg.org/ovi
Twitter: @CSGOversseasVote