

11:06:08 From Vicky Turner : The link has been fixed
11:06:17 From Vicky Turner : I just checked it
11:07:49 From Louise Spencer : We were told today that the Secretary of State's office is ready to launch a new website. It would be helpful for the committee to know if this is the case. Thank you.
11:11:41 From Louise Spencer : Sending best wishes to Rep. Griffin and her husband.
11:12:12 From Judy Strakalaitis : I hope you will consider return postage for absentee registration too?
11:19:13 From Vicky Turner : Hand count towns won't have those problems. Also smaller accu-vote towns will be ok without bigger envelopes. Larger towns (over 3000 on checklists) should have large envelopes
11:20:55 From Judy Strakalaitis : Thank you, Vicky.
11:23:13 From Vicky Turner : 0.191 per piece Every Door Direct Mail
11:25:00 From Judy Strakalaitis : . Way less.
11:26:05 From Vicky Turner : Assuming 528,078 households in NH x 0.191 could get an informational mailing to every household in NH for \$100, 863 + printing costs
11:31:14 From Vicky Turner : A lot of the absentee registration requests will ride along with postage for absentee ballot requests or absentee ballots themselves
11:35:37 From Vicky Turner : Good point about Supervisors. We already meet once or twice in August to deal with Nomination Papers.
11:36:45 From Louise Spencer : It seems that there is a fundamental public policy question that informs the answer to many questions here: In the presence of COVID and the public health concerns it creates, is it advisable to encourage as many people as possible to register and vote other than in person? If the answer to that question is yes, which I believe it should be, then it makes sense to remove as many barriers as possible for people to exercise alternatives to in-person options. Pre-paid postage would advance this important public policy goal.
11:38:35 From Liz Tentarelli : Yes, Louise, that is the first priority decision to be made. Does the committee and the state agree that absentee voting should be encouraged for most voters.
11:41:51 From Vicky Turner : 2016 state primary turnout was 21%
11:45:07 From Vicky Turner : Competitive Senate or Gubernatorial elections sometimes bump turnout up from that abysmal number...
11:48:33 From Vicky Turner : I don't want to be forced to wear my paint respirator. It is not very fashionable.
11:50:13 From Judy Strakalaitis : Have you see the masks that have the bottom half of your face on them? A few ICU doctors have them so their appearance is more human to patients.
11:51:12 From Vicky Turner : Every town pays their poll-workers differently. Town Clerks are often on salary. Might need to establish an hourly rate for all poll-workers that is uniform for the state.
11:55:56 From Louise Spencer : To the extent that the committee identifies spending needs that exceed the \$3.2million, it seems imperative that the committee make those recommendations so that the public is aware of these needs. It is critical to understand why HAVA funds would not be tapped into in order to meet these identified needs.
11:57:02 From Louise Spencer : The committee needs to know how the

Secretary of State might spend the HAVA funds because that would determine certain spending that would not need to come out of the \$3.2 CARES funding.

11:58:59 From Vicky Turner : The EAC Guidelines on use of HAVA funds for expenses related to Covid-19 are here. The FAQ is updated often:
<https://www.eac.gov/election-officials/guidance-use-hava-funds-expenses-related-covid-19>

12:06:32 From Judy Strakalaitis : Thank you, Louise and Vicky. Great points.

12:06:34 From Louise Spencer : The Secretary of State seems to take an all or nothing approach to the HAVA funds. It seems that there must be some amount of that money that could be available for use in this emergency.

12:08:30 From Judy Strakalaitis : Please consider prepaid return postage for absentee registrations that are requested before absentee ballots are available.

12:09:09 From Judy Strakalaitis : Please allow absentee registrations to be returned through a secure dropbox as well as by mail.

12:09:59 From Judy Strakalaitis : Absentee registrations do not need to be flat.

12:12:22 From Louise Spencer : The more purchasing can be centralized the lower the accounting costs.

12:15:49 From Liz Tentarelli : HAVA funds were used for the state archives?!?

12:22:14 From Vicky Turner : ElectioNet allows is to print labels by household. We could save postage doing that, but how do we know how many voters per household?

12:22:48 From Judy Strakalaitis : Gene is spot on. That is all that is necessary.

12:23:31 From Judy Strakalaitis : Name, address, DOB. That's it. Which party for Undeclared voters.

12:26:18 From Judy Strakalaitis : Brad, that happens anyway without someone sends in an abs ballot req and is not registered. Many people believe they were registered by DMV or at the tax collectors or don't know they need to register after moving to another town. They are sent the registration forms along with the absentee ballot.

12:28:12 From Louise Spencer : Liz Tentarelli Yes \$1M in HAVA \$ was spent to build an addition to the state archives building

12:30:14 From Liz Tentarelli : And the Sec of State refuses to use HAVA money to make this election run smoothly?.. Okay, now I'm annoyed.

12:31:43 From Vicky Turner : USPS Election Mail page:
<https://about.usps.com/gov-services/election-mail/>

12:32:37 From Vicky Turner : EAC standards for election mail:
<https://electionmail.org/usps-tips-for-2018-eac-standards-board>

12:33:23 From Ruth : That's outrageous about the HAVA funds.

12:37:08 From Judy Strakalaitis : Machines jam constantly with folded absentees in any town of significant size. At 2016 presidential election, the jamming caused the line to deposit ballots in the machine to snake across the gym and weave in and out of voting booths. People entering the secure area to vote could not access booths.

12:37:19 From Louise Spencer : Bravo Vicky Turner!!

12:37:39 From Judy Strakalaitis : Solution is to allow absentee ballots to

be processed when machines are not being used by voters

12:37:45 From Vicky Turner : yw

12:38:10 From Judy Strakalaitis : WOOHOO VICKY TURNER. Thank you for your research.

12:38:49 From Judy Strakalaitis : Yes, Katherine Hanna. Excellent!

12:44:31 From Vicky Turner : A big time saver would be the no-fault , no change of party primary.

12:45:28 From Judy Strakalaitis : Brought up in my testimony that SOS will need to prepare public that results will take longer and doesn't mean something nefarious is going on. I suggested announcing results statewide at the same time rather than town by town to ensure public confidence.

12:46:50 From Judy Strakalaitis : From what I have seen, the absentee ballots are processed as much as they possibly can be before election day.

12:49:00 From Vicky Turner : 108 hand count towns will not have issues with folded ballots.

12:49:36 From Judy Strakalaitis : People voting in person do not get a do-over. You cast your absentee ballot by returning it.

12:50:33 From Louise Spencer : I agree Judy that the SoS needs to educate the public about the need for patience and the integrity of the process.

12:50:56 From Judy Strakalaitis : That is already done before election day, Senator Sherman. The affidavit and envelope are clipped together.

12:52:05 From Jean Lightfoot : Our TC loved the idea of highlighting the absentee ballots cast - as Bud had suggested earlier. She thought it would help the Clerks find the voter on the checklist quickly.

12:52:17 From Judy Strakalaitis : In my town, councilors push for fast results despite having districts that are counted separately and then brought to central polling place.

12:52:34 From Judy Strakalaitis : Highlighting is an improvement.

12:53:00 From Jean Lightfoot : We'll be highlighting over Labor Day Weekend this year.

12:55:41 From Vicky Turner : Go to the dropbox

12:55:44 From Judy Strakalaitis : You could start highlighting as soon as supervisors print the checklist after their last session 7-10 before election. Supervisors can print ASAP and post it with town clerk. So TC wld have all or most of the week before to highlight.

12:56:05 From Louise Spencer : Thank you Senator Sherman for your perspective.

12:57:04 From Judy Strakalaitis : As more are returned after 1st round of highlighting, they can highlight the additional names on Friday.

12:57:06 From Vicky Turner : It would be nice to talk to other states that already do this. What type of mail options do they use?

12:59:18 From Judy Strakalaitis : Flat envelopes for absentee ballots are related bc this a change due to Covid. It is directly related.

12:59:54 From Judy Strakalaitis : Covid expanded the disability exemption. So the huge eligibility for abs ballots is a direct result of Covid.

13:00:56 From Judy Strakalaitis : It is a poll tax.

13:02:19 From Judy Strakalaitis : Sending applications to every door is not a problem. Everything must be verified with the application is sent in. Just as Gene said.

13:03:11 From Judy Strakalaitis : And avoids postage sending a mailer and

then separately sending application, then separately sending abs ballot.

13:03:43 From Vicky Turner : We can defray postage by making sure we have drop boxes available. Also many people will be ok with coming TO the polls to drop off absentee ballots as opposed to going INTO the polls to vote. 64% of voters in Colorado, a vote-by-mail state drop their ballots off, rather than mail them.

13:04:38 From Judy Strakalaitis : TY Vicky!