

11:34:22 From claudia : please whoever is on the phone, mute yourself and thanks!

11:42:20 From Vicky Turner : If you don't count labor?

11:45:14 From Vicky Turner : Is there a base (minimum) number of pollworkers regardless of size? i.e 1 mod, 1 tc, 4 ballot clerks, 3 sups, 1 selectman = 10

11:46:01 From Ruth : Larger towns/cities with more voters may have some economies of scale.

11:46:35 From Vicky Turner : That's true also Ruth - in part because of the base # of workers.

11:46:47 From Ruth : Exactly!

11:49:53 From Vicky Turner : Formula is  $BASE\ NUMBER + (PPE/voter)(\# voters)$

11:50:38 From Vicky Turner : can you tell I have been tutoring my kids algebra for the last 10 yrs?

11:54:46 From Olivia Zink : NH Constitution requires two selectman at polls

12:02:49 From Vicky Turner : Municipalities generally use first class, which is .05 cents more expensive than metered

12:06:37 From Melanie Levesque : Great job Vicky. Thank you!

12:07:00 From Vicky Turner : Outbound General Election Absentee Ballot requests would = \$461,000. Or if you use regular first class it would be \$702,000

12:07:40 From Vicky Turner : or the printer's meter. Same difference

12:09:05 From Vicky Turner : I got different totals here

12:09:37 From Vicky Turner : It's about 100,000

12:10:07 From Vicky Turner : Each town would need a permit

12:10:13 From Vicky Turner : for BRM

12:10:34 From Vicky Turner : Might make economic sense for larger precincts

12:11:20 From Vicky Turner : And there needs to be a unique printing of BRM for each town

12:12:56 From Olivia Zink : on

12:13:17 From Olivia Zink : 73,305 ballots sent out in 2016

12:13:53 From Olivia Zink : if they cost 70. cents for towns to send out

12:14:31 From Olivia Zink : \$51,313

12:14:35 From Vicky Turner : Isn't that Patricia?

12:14:49 From Olivia Zink : \$51,313

12:16:59 From Vicky Turner : Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM), assuming  $528,078 \times 0.191 = \$100,863$  would go to every household. Could send an informational mailing

12:17:06 From Vicky Turner : that way

12:20:45 From Chuck Mitchell : Some town clerks are discouraging absentee voting due to the increased work load... I have seen such evidence on FB.

12:23:20 From Louise Spencer : The committee needs to know if the Secretary of State intends to spend any HAVA funds or other funds to ensure the safety and security of the elections. If the SoS is unwilling to commit any HAVA funds, the committee needs to understand why.

12:24:30 From Louise Spencer : What is the Secretary of State's overall budget apart from the CARES money and how will this money be spent.

12:26:18 From Vicky Turner : If there is a way within ElectionNet to

generate labels of only the voters who HAVEN'T sent in an absentee ballot request, we could save postage costs there.

12:26:19 From Louise Spencer : When Secretary of State Scanlon says there will be an education effort regarding two-sided ballots is this something apart from CARES. What other monies are already spent on voter outreach and education?

12:26:53 From Vicky Turner : Less experienced voters, and less experienced with the absentee process

12:30:22 From Vicky Turner : Other states have sent a postcard with a tear-off postcard to request absentee ballot request for x number of voters

12:32:20 From Louise Spencer : Postcards seem like a good cost-efficient method

12:33:01 From Kyri : Why isn't a downloadable form on the website the most cost efficient?

12:34:45 From Louise Spencer : I agree, Kyri, downloadable form should definitely be an option.

12:36:52 From Kyri : Postcard that says that you can vote absentee and request your ballot with the form on the website address you give. Costs would be less right?

12:36:57 From Vicky Turner : a postcard would be around 100,00 plus design and print + return postage for those who send it back.

12:37:29 From Louise Spencer : The \$3.2M must be evaluated in the context of the Secretary of State's overall budget.

12:38:28 From Donna Stamper : If the double sided letter for info and the back side with the application goes to the household can the other members/voters just include their letter for application in the return envelope

12:38:57 From Brian Beihl, Open Democracy : Yes, a "Double Postcard" mails 1st class for the same rate as a single card.

12:39:31 From Vicky Turner : If it was EDDM it would be a lot cheaper. Regular first class postcards first class are .35 cents as opposed to .55 cents

12:40:12 From Kyri : A double postcard is the same as a single card? That's a bargain.

12:40:15 From Louise Spencer : The Secretary of State could send an advisory about how the clerk or supervisors should view a postcard that includes more than one name. Creating uniform procedures will be essential.

12:41:08 From Olivia Zink : My understand if the vote doesn't signed request form or the ballot isn't counted.

12:41:57 From Vicky Turner : \$100,863

12:42:34 From Vicky Turner : for households

12:42:59 From Vicky Turner : EDDM to all voters would be \$191,554

12:43:54 From Vicky Turner : But there is no guarantee that a checklist mailing would achieve the saturation rate that gives you the EDDM rate

12:44:38 From Louise Spencer : The Secretary of State's office needs to create uniform guidance and procedures so election officials know exactly what is and isn't acceptable.

12:47:58 From Louise Spencer : The absentee ballot paid return postage is the essential thing.

12:48:41 From Kyri : That's right, Louise. That's not a standard stamp.

12:48:47 From Vicky Turner : Savings of \$532,000

12:49:35 From Kyri : Vicky, Thank you so much for crunching all these postage numbers. It is so helpful to talk about realities.

12:50:04 From Louise Spencer : Particularly if the request can be faxed, dropped off or otherwise readily transmitted.

12:50:30 From Louise Spencer : Yes, Vicky, thank you!

12:50:39 From Vicky Turner : You're welcome

12:51:19 From Chuck Mitchell : Paying return postage for absentee ballots, encourages absentee voting (good), and saves the voters money, but does not assist cities and towns with all of the extra costs of holding the elections with regard to the pandemic.

12:51:33 From Louise Spencer : Can the registration request be returned by phone picture.

12:52:21 From Kyri : Chuck, I think they are working with "buckets." The in-person voting/polling place costs are a different bucket.

12:52:38 From Louise Spencer : Chuck Mitchell, both issues definitely need to be addressed and funding must be made available. Again, HAVA funds!

12:54:20 From Louise Spencer : Very good question, Ms. Hanna and that should be pre-paid.

12:55:20 From Vicky Turner : it becomes a same day registration when the time is short

12:55:51 From Kyri : I was under the impression we could do that.

12:56:26 From Jean Lightfoot : That would be crazy! Keeping all new absentee registrations until election day.

12:57:33 From Kyri : Jean, I think they meant that it would be considered same day if the voter happened to send them together, rather than the preferred way of separately.

12:58:15 From Vicky Turner : I get most absentee registrations before election day, because they arrive before our last session for correction

12:59:08 From Louise Spencer : That subset of people will absolutely want to put both documents into the same envelope that is marked prepaid.

12:59:38 From Kyri : Probably true, Louise.

13:00:11 From Louise Spencer : If they don't have a prepaid envelope for the registration form, most people would put both documents into the pre-paid envelope so that the registration and ballot are in the same envelope.

13:00:18 From Kyri : I wonder what number of people we are talking about. Not registered and wanting to reg an vote absentee.

13:00:54 From Olivia Zink : if you add five extra pages to the same envelope then it's an extra oz so the postage is more

13:01:14 From Louise Spencer : Yes it

13:01:52 From Louise Spencer : Yes it will be important to have the registration envelope also prepaid to avoid people using the same envelope.

13:02:01 From Kyri : Has the committee decided definitively against online forms?

13:05:30 From Vicky Turner : Worst case scenario, if the mailing is over-weight, the USPS will deliver the mail and charge the municipality.

13:05:33 From Louise Spencer : I can tell you that most people are going to stick everything in the prepaid envelope thinking they will be saving themselves postage. If the postage is inadequate, the whole package may not get delivered on time.

13:05:59 From Jean Lightfoot : Kyri, Kathy Seaver said it exactly the way it works right now. When an absentee registration comes in before the final Supervisors' meeting before the election, then it is submitted to the Supervisors

before the election. After the final, then, it is same day. But, to push all those to same day registration makes Election Day that much busier than necessary.

13:07:23 From Vicky Turner : Keeps us entertained at the polls.

13:07:54 From Jean Lightfoot : We don't need much more entertainment at the polls during the General Election.

13:08:27 From Vicky Turner : We meet pretty close to the election as it is...

13:08:29 From Chuck Mitchell : And for the Primary, Monday is Labor Day, no one will be collecting mail on Saturday or Monday preceding the Primary.

13:08:43 From Jean Lightfoot : Supervisors need time to update and print the checklist - it's pretty close as it is to the election day!

13:08:45 From Louise Spencer : Good point, Chuck.

13:09:16 From Vicky Turner : If we hold an extra session, we could just post it as our final session

13:10:46 From Melanie Levesque : If we are getting more absentee registrations it seems the SOC should be meeting more often to ensure the registrations are added to the checklist. Not necessarily when they want to but ensure they are meeting at least once a month if needed.

13:12:59 From Vicky Turner : At the very least, the REQUEST for absentee registration should be available as a download or a fillable form. We can separate that from the verifications etc.

13:13:11 From Kyri : What if they would be voter download the form from the website and then they mail the reg in with their proofs.

13:13:29 From Jean Lightfoot : We do keep in touch with the TC. Once there are a good number of changes or new registrations, we will meet to take care of those so we aren't too backed up before the election.

13:17:49 From Vicky Turner : I wholeheartedly agree with Senator Sherman!

13:17:53 From Louise Spencer : Well said, Dr. Sherman. We are hoping people will use the absentee registration process for the safety of everyone.

13:19:17 From Vicky Turner : And the technology update is minimal, as we already have the interface (the Town Clerk uses it). We are only changing who inputs the info and where it is input from.

13:20:23 From Louise Spencer : The absentee registration process already includes an affidavit. There is no reason that this can't include identity and domicile.

13:21:52 From Vicky Turner : struck down in court

13:21:55 From Louise Spencer : r/s 654:17 already includes affidavits - Absence from town or Physical Disability...These are sworn in accordance with r/s 659:34

13:22:11 From Jean Lightfoot : You can still sign an affidavit - you just don't have to say you can correct it.

13:22:22 From Kyri : If the person registering has no photocopier, then it would be hard to remedy the problem.

13:22:31 From Louise Spencer : We are already accepting affidavits as part of the absentee registration process.

13:23:20 From Louise Spencer : I wholeheartedly agree with Senator Sherman. Thank you.

13:24:26 From Kyri : Logic is so appealing,.

13:26:16 From Vicky Turner : We should just make sure that voters and registrants put a phone number and/or email address on all applications so that

mistakes can be corrected

13:27:36 From Kyri : Absentee registration is not only an issue for college towns.

13:27:59 From Louise Spencer : We are not talking about online registration here. We are talking about making the forms available and downloadable online.

13:28:09 From Melanie Levesque : Agree its not just students that need to register.

13:28:24 From Vicky Turner : I don't think college kids participate in the Primary very much. We are talking about the General Election here.

13:28:37 From Louise Spencer : Although online registration would be great :)!

13:28:42 From Mary Wilke : I worked at a polling station in Concord and registered many people who were not college students, including many senior citizens, many middle aged people who had moved, and some high school students.

13:28:58 From Kyri : I'm a supervisor in Concord and I do not want people coming to register on election day unless they absolutely have to.

13:29:54 From Vicky Turner : Don't forget that residence, name and address changes require the voter to fill out the same registration form as well.

13:29:57 From Louise Spencer : The whole point is to expand the pool of people opting for absentee voter registration in order to reduce risk at the polls.

13:29:59 From Jean Lightfoot : I agree, Kyri. Even in small town Hopkinton, we have well over 200 new registrations on big elections. We really don't want that many people lining up if we don't have to.

13:30:23 From Kyri : Any change to a registered voters name or address must be done on a new registration.

13:31:42 From Louise Spencer : Are towns already seeing an increase in requests for absentee registrations?

13:31:57 From Kyri : Most voters do not know they have to register all over again when they come to the polls.

13:32:00 From Jean Lightfoot : Louise - I know we are already in Hopkinton.

13:32:31 From Jean Lightfoot : Our TC is very concerned about the numbers she already has.

13:33:55 From Louise Spencer : This is where a hotline could be very useful in the event that people have questions.

13:34:30 From Kyri : The website with the form would have instructions.

13:34:34 From Louise Spencer : The instructions should be very clear on the website along with the forms.

13:34:43 From Melanie Levesque : Education and clear instructions are Key!

13:35:02 From Jean Lightfoot : When the form is downloaded, the instructions should automatically go with the download.

13:35:13 From Kyri : Good idea Jean.

13:36:29 From Kyri : But they may be able to get to Kinkos to copy their documents.

13:36:46 From Kyri : May not. Key word missing.

13:37:09 From Louise Spencer : Please do look at the current statute about absentee voter registration 654:16. The process already requires affidavits. The state is already relying on these affidavits and the registrant signs under threat of severe penalties RSA 659:34

13:37:20 From Jean Lightfoot : If they don't follow the instructions, then the registration is denied. Hopefully, include a phone or email where the TC or Supervisors could contact the absentee registrant to correct things.

13:37:26 From Louise Spencer : Why are some affidavits more valid than others??

13:37:49 From Vicky Turner : But that's the same thing that happens when a TC send the absentee registration packet out. In either case, the citizen is filling the form out at home.

13:38:50 From Vicky Turner : Make sure the phone number /email address of the person is on it so any mistakes or omissions can be corrected.

13:38:56 From Kyri : People are used to downloading forms and following instructions reasonably well.

13:44:28 From Vicky Turner : And ask for a phone number / email address

13:47:27 From Melanie Levesque : We have to remember that these are not usual times we are trying to facilitate the ability to vote not in person. Thank you for talking this through and keeping the mission in mind.

13:47:33 From Louise Spencer : I would urge you to look at the current use of affidavits already in use. And ask how you would address the problem that Dr. Sherman's mother-in-law would face if trying to register without a driver's license and other documentation. Is that really the person you want to force to go in person to register?????

13:48:21 From Louise Spencer : There still is no word from the Secretary of State on whether they are spending any HAVA funds.

13:49:45 From Louise Spencer : I also would encourage committee members to read the Judge's opinion in SB3  
<https://www.courts.state.nh.us/caseinfo/pdf/civil/LeaguevNH/040820league-order.pdf>

13:49:56 From Kyri : How would Dr. Sherman's mother register if she had to send in documents (which she doesn't have)?

13:50:09 From Kyri : She would have to come to the polls, perhaps.

13:50:17 From Kyri : Which is what we don't want her to do.

13:50:55 From Louise Spencer : It speaks specifically to registration issues that can unduly burden the fundamental right to vote.

13:51:58 From Vicky Turner : Thanks for that link, Louise. I will read it.

13:52:33 From Louise Spencer : So appreciative to the committee members for their thoughtful and dedicated work in service to the people of New Hampshire.

13:53:09 From Kyri : Thank you for your persistence with all these thorny issues. Your work is appreciated.

13:54:41 From Jean Lightfoot : Thank you for all of your work and care on these issues. We all really appreciate it.

13:56:35 From Melanie Levesque : Yes we have hearings Thursday

13:57:01 From Melanie Levesque : Thursday 2pm

13:57:24 From Melanie Levesque : Thanks

13:57:56 From Melanie Levesque : :)

13:59:01 From Louise Spencer : Still no EO or directive before the committee writes its report? It seems that would be essential documents in the final analysis.

14:01:04 From Vicky Turner : Also printing?