

Funding Options for a Uniform Voting System

Discussion Points for Uniform Voting System Advisory Committee Meeting May 31, 2013

While the Secretary of State and the State Treasurer's Office have worked on a plan that might allow Counties to fund a Uniform Voting System (UVS) from a State fund with amortized payback over a period of 7-10 years, this does not address the issue of the lack of available funds in some counties for voting equipment purchase.

The discussion leads to the exploration of funding source(s), other than county general fund appropriations, to finance equipment purchases.

Identified options to this point include:

1. Full or partial state funding via Legislative appropriation;
2. Including equipment cost in the reimbursement formula when counties bill local jurisdictions;
3. Billing the state for a portion of the amortized costs for each Primary and General election, in addition to the "per voter" reimbursement already received for operating expense reimbursement, using the formula used for billing local jurisdictions. This could be in addition to the change in number two (2).
4. Other.

Obviously any of the above options would need to be passed through the Legislature.