

From: bill <bhugenberg@bresnan.net>
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2013 5:56 AM
To: Public UVS Panel; Suzanne Staiert
Cc: Marilyn Marks; Harvie Branscomb
Subject: Secretary Gessler's Uniform Voting System Project

Dear Panel:

I am writing to endorse the views and suggestions previously submitted by Harvie Branscomb and Marilyn Marks (on behalf of Citizens Center).

Secretary Gessler seems to be “putting the cart before the horse” in rushing to finalize and promulgate an RFP without adequate development of specifications, requirements, and practicalities.

I am particularly suspicious of a process dominated by the Colorado County Clerks Association, whose lack of transparency as to funding leaves it susceptible to undue influence by the very vendors at whom the RFP will be directed. The parochial practical “expertise” of local clerks should be counterbalanced and scrutinized by *bona fide* nationally-recognized experts with a broader knowledge of effective voting procedures and potential vulnerabilities.

At a minimum, the RFP should expressly reaffirm Colorado’s constitutional commitment to preserving the impenetrably anonymous “secret ballot” while promoting maximum election transparency. Elections properly belong to “the people”, not exclusively to the clerks who administer them.

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