

May 14, 2015

I am writing to provide feedback on the proposed changes to Colorado's Election Rules.

First, I support and appreciate efforts to make the rules more specific, thereby reducing the potential for misinterpretation and abuse.

Second, I have a general concern with all forms of electronic voting, given documented evidence of election fraud and potential for abuse. I don't buy the argument that "it's just too hard to automate the voting process AND keep it secure". For many years, banks have been able to securely manage online access to financial accounts that involve multiple mathematical transactions (e.g. add or subtract \$ to an account, move \$ between accounts, add fees to an account, add interest to an account). Given that it's been demonstrated that all these transactions can be performed accurately with a detailed audit trail – down to the penny – there is no reason that the simple math of adding +1 to a given candidate can't be 100% accurate and secure with an easy to audit transaction trail.

Third, I have concerns with a couple of the details as noted below:

The Amendments to Rule 16.2.1(c) should be **rejected**. Voters do not have all the information they need to determine that returning a ballot online is dangerously insecure, and leaving it up to their opinion can result in greater risk of coercion. Voters can receive their blank ballots online 45 days before Election Day and have them counted if they arrive by 8 days after Election Day, as long as they were postmarked timely. They may also use "expedited" return service through the Military Postal Service, which on average gets ballots back to the county in 5.2 days.

The Amendments to Rule 20.5.2(f) should be **rejected** also. Inclusion of wi-fi or other wireless capacity in a voting system does not meet with security best practices, and fails to measure up to federal guidelines against which voting systems are tested nationally.

Recently a voting system in Virginia was de-certified when it was shown that its wi-fi capability would easily enable undetectable tampering with vote results! Although Colorado doesn't require testing to those federal guidelines, the existing state security Rules at least require disabling of any wireless capacity. This Amendment would make that safeguard *optional*, without having to show that such an exception would not endanger the integrity of the election.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input to the rules changes. I fully support efforts to make Colorado's voting rules a world-wide model for accurate, secure, auditable, and cost effective voting systems.

Connie Luke