



STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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MEMORANDUM

To: County Boards of Elections
From: Gary O. Bartlett
Subject: Helpful Recommendations

Much has been written and reported about the one-stop absentee or "Early Voting" process for the November 2, 2010, General Election. It is widely acknowledged that voters view this as a choice that allows them to arrange their schedules in a more convenient manner.

There have been only a few reports of calibration issues with the iVo machines statewide, however, it is recommended that the screens on all iVo machines be recalibrated at the beginning of each day of one-stop voting. This should be performed by an average height person before the one-stop voting site is opened each day. The use of the human hand is preferred over the use of a stylus. This practice would ensure that every voter's choices are properly selected and would promote confidence in the integrity of the election process.

Due to the increased size of the optical scan ballots, it is recommended that each county board of elections consider and adopt a policy for frequent checks of the ballots contained in the M100 ballot box. This would involve two polling place officials of different party affiliations and would allow the restacking or straightening of the ballots to avoid damage that could result from falling into the box in a weird orientation. This policy would include anticipated times and clear announcement of this activity during times when the one-stop site may not be in heavy use.

It seems certain that the popularity of Early Voting is not just for Presidential election years and that we need to be attentive to the voters' perception of the voting process. Thank you for your continued hard work and expertise.