



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

February 3, 2010

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Secretary of State Debra Bowen and County Elections Officials to Hold Hearing on Future of Voting In California; Will Examine Equipment, Costs, Opportunities

WHAT: Secretary of State Debra Bowen will bring together elections experts from around the state and nation to discuss the current election administration landscape and how California can best prepare for the future while maintaining an electoral system that is secure, accurate, reliable and accessible.

With some of the most stringent standards and laws in the nation, California is a leader in election integrity. “Demands for increased transparency and services, shrinking government budgets, and technological advances that outpace elections laws and regulations have combined to challenge what many thought were ‘permanent’ solutions developed as part of the 2002 Help America Vote Act,” said Secretary Bowen, California’s chief elections officer. “Many in California and across the nation are ready to move in a new direction. The question is, what should Californians seek in the next generation of voting equipment and how can new products truly serve the interests of voters?”

Secretary Bowen will lead the discussion along with county clerks/registrars of voters from Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Santa Cruz and Madera counties. Wide-ranging testimony will come from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Pew Center on States, Federal Voting Assistance Program, representatives from every major voting system manufacturer with contracts in California, and more. To view a full agenda, go to www.sos.ca.gov/voting-systems/hearings.

To watch the hearing live via the Internet, go to www.sos.ca.gov/voting-systems/hearings/video-viewer.htm.

For more information about voting systems and the certification process in California, go to www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vs.htm.

WHEN: Monday, February 8, 2010
10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Secretary of State’s Office
Auditorium
1500 11th Street
Sacramento

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