



ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Proposed Information Collection— 2020 Election Administration and Voting Survey;

Comment Request

AGENCY: U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act* of 1995, the EAC announces an information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. The EAC intends to submit this proposed information collection (2020 Election Administration and Voting Survey, or EAVS) to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget for approval. The 2020 EAVS asks election officials questions concerning voting and election administration, including the following topics: voter registration; overseas and military voting; voting by mail; early in-person voting; polling operations; provisional voting; voter participation; election technology; election policy; and other related issues.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before **March 12, 2020**.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed information collection should be submitted electronically via <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket ID: EAC-2019-0001). Written comments on the proposed information collection can also be sent to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1335 East West Highway, Suite 4300, Silver Spring, MD 20910, *Attn:* EAVS.

Obtaining a Copy of the Survey: To obtain a free copy of the draft survey instrument: (1) download a copy at <https://www.regulations.gov> (docket ID: EAC-2019-0001); or (2) write to the EAC (including your address and phone number) at U.S. Election Assistance

Commission, 1335 East West Highway, Suite 4300 Silver Spring, MD 20910, *Attn:* EAVS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Nichelle Williams at 301-563-3919, or email clearinghouse@eac.gov; U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1335 East West Highway, Suite 4300, Silver Spring, MD 20910

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments: Public comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and OMB Number: 2020 Election Administration and Voting Survey;

OMB Number Pending.

Needs and Uses

The EAC issues the EAVS to meet its obligations under the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) to serve as national clearinghouse and resource for the compilation of information with respect to the administration of Federal elections; to fulfill both the EAC and the Department of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) data collection requirements under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA); and meet its National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) mandate to collect information from states concerning the impact of that statute on the administration of

Federal elections. In addition, under the NVRA, the EAC is responsible for collecting information and reporting, biennially, to Congress on the impact of that statute. The information the states are required to submit to the EAC for purposes of the NVRA report are found under Title 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations. States that respond to questions in this survey concerning voter registration-related matters will meet their NVRA reporting requirements under 52 U.S.C. §20508 and EAC regulations. Finally, UOCAVA mandates that FVAP work with the EAC and chief state election officials to develop standards for reporting UOCAVA voting information (52 U.S.C. §20302) and that FVAP will store the reported data and present the findings within the congressionally-mandated report to the President and Congress. Additionally, UOCAVA requires that “not later than 90 days after the date of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, each state and unit of local government which administered the election shall (through the state, in the case of a unit of local government) submit a report to the EAC on the combined number of absentee ballots transmitted to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters for the election and the combined number of such ballots which were returned by such voters and cast in the election, and shall make such a report available to the general public.” States that complete and timely submit the UOCAVA section of the survey to the EAC will fulfill their UOCAVA reporting requirement under 52 U.S.C. §20302. In order to fulfill the above requirements, the EAC is seeking information relating to the period from the Federal general election day 2018 +1 through the November 2020 Federal general election. The EAC will provide the data regarding UOCAVA voting to FVAP after data collection is completed. This data sharing reduces burden on local election offices

because FVAP does not have to conduct its own data collection to meet its reporting requirements.

Affected Public (Respondents): State or local governments, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Number of Respondents: 56.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Burden per Response: 101 hours per collection, 50.5 hours annualized.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 5,656 hours per collection, 2,828 hours annualized.

Frequency: Biennially

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Nichelle Williams

Director of Research,

U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

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