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iVOTE.DE.gov the evolution of eSignature

DELAWARE

Submitted by:

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iVOTE.DE.gov the evolution of eSignature

"eSignature-The Greatest Invention Since Sliced Bread"

As many of you are aware in 2009 the State of Delaware implemented eSignature, which eliminated the manual paper process of receiving voter registration applications from the Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Please view: http://www.electioncenter.org/publications/2009%20Papers/Delaware%20eSignature.pdf. In addition to eliminating all of the inefficiencies and problems associated with collecting and processing paper applications the eSignature implementation also created real-time data exchange between DMV, DHSS, and the Election Departments with the applicant's signature attached to each transaction. This means if you walk into a DMV in Delaware at 8:30 on a Monday morning; the appropriate County Election Department *instantly* receives that application with the voter's signature attached for processing.

"Evolution of eSignature"

The implementation of eSignature represented a paradigm shift in the way voter registration services were delivered to Delawareans. It started with a simple question by Elaine Manlove, State Election Commissioner: "Why can't I sign my signature the way I do when I am in a department store?" Five years later, this question is still relevant. As the use of technology becomes more prolific in society the application of web-based technology and the resulting benefits should not be constrained to only the private sector. Government should follow the example of the private sector and use web-based technology as a tool to provide and enhance services. Prior to Motor Voter (NVRA), if a person wanted to register to vote they would have to call the Election Department to request a voter registration application by mail or travel to the Election Department to complete a voter registration application. After the implementation of Motor Voter (NVRA mandate), the locations were expanded to each DMV as well as the Division of Social Services (DSS) and the Department of Labor (DOL). The evolution of eSignature is to expand voter services by utilizing the Internet. Delaware already had an existing web-based Voter-Registration Application. However after entering the required information applicants were required to print, sign, and return the request for processing to an Election Department. This all changed on April 16, 2014.

"iVOTE.DE.gov bringing voter registration services to our customers"

On April 16, 2014, the State of Delaware implemented iVOTE.DE.gov. This web portal maintains all of the existing functionality of eSignature while expanded services in real-time 24 hours a day 7 days a week. A customer can now sign their voter registration application request by using a mouse/input device; by using an existing signature from DMV/Elections; by uploading an image of their signature or by printing, signing, and returning the application for processing.   Essentially, all you need now to access voter services is a web/internet enabled device. In addition to completing and signing a web based voter registration application in real-time a customer can also:

- Determine if they are registered to vote in Delaware.
- Can register to vote or update an existing registration.
- Check the status of their voter registration application.
- Determine where they vote on Election Day and get driving directions.
- Request a polling place card.
- Determine what's on their ballot.
- Determine their elected representatives.
- Request an absentee ballot affidavit and an absentee ballot.
- Check the status of their absentee ballot affidavit.
- Check the status of their absentee ballot to determine if it was received and counted.
- Check the status of their provisional ballot to determine if it was counted.
- Use the FPCA wizard to submit an FPCA.
- If qualified use the Absentee Ballot Marking System.

"iVOTE.DE.gov –the Future"

The iVOTE.DE.gov portal can also be used as a poll-book.   In May of 2014 we conducted a pilot of the poll-book component of the portal during our School Board Elections. The results were very promising! Additionally we will be using the iVOTE.DE.gov portal during the July 2014 Delaware State Fair. We will be using both laptop and tablet based devices to showcase the portal. I would like to add that the entire application was developed internally by the Office of the State Election Commissioner.

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Delaware online portal makes voting easier

WIL   *6:59 p.m. EDT April 15, 2014*

(Photo: Getty Images)

Have questions about your eligibility to vote in Delaware elections? Worried that you don't know where your polling place is?

Not sure how to cast a ballot in the coming mid-term elections this fall?

Then welcome the arrival Wednesday of

Delaware's first online Voter Portal at:

https://ivote.de.gov (https://ivote.de.gov/). It's schedule to go live at 8 a.m.

By housing all of the necessary voter functions on one site, Delaware's Department of Election is providing a one-stop shopping haven for the curious, uniformed and intimidated voter. The result is access to:

• True online registration with multiple ways to apply your signature: Apply your Department of Motor Vehicle signature (if it is on file), apply an image of your signature, using a pointing device. If you can't apply your signature, you will have to print, sign and return the application to your Department of Elections.

• You can find the status of your registration application, if you are registered, where your vote, have a polling place card sent to you, find out who represents you.

• You can complete a request for an absentee ballot, and if you can sign it by applying your signature you will be able to return it by email.

At the appropriate time in an election cycle – during primary, midterm and general elections:

• You can find the status of your absentee ballot request, absentee ballot, provisional ballot as well as what's on your ballot.

• You can request to have election information: Date and time of the election and where you vote.

Still not convinced of the convenience of early voting? Then consider this finding from the 2012 presidential election results – most states trimmed waiting times at polling places considerably by tweaking services with the voters in mind.

According to the Pew Charitable Trust, "Research shows that states offering more convenient opportunities for voter registration had a lower rate of rejected registrations, lower use of provisional ballots, and fewer voters unable to cast ballots due to registration problems."

"We know common-sense solutions to improve elections exist. States are pioneering innovations that make a real difference in the efficiency and accuracy of their elections operations while also saving money," said David Becker, director of Pew's election initiatives project. "The Election Performance Index allows policymakers to pinpoint what's working while also identifying areas where improvement is needed."

Ultimately by finessing the balloting process so that it's more efficient, personal and accessible to voters before Election Day, Delaware also stands to rebut this often repeated political warning that: "Bad politicians are sent to Washington – and many local and state offices – by good people who don't vote."

Read or Share this story: http://delonline.us/1kvbCFN

iVOTE.DE.gov Home Page

State of Delaware
The Official Website of the First State

State Services & Information

Office of the State Election Commissioner >> Vote Delaware

iVOTE.DE.gov

Thursday, June 05, 2014 11:28 AM
[Logout]

Welcome!

Welcome Delaware voters. This page gives you access to common voter and absentee services.

Voter Portal
Choose the question that describes what you want to do.

- *Am I registered to vote in Delaware? How am I registered?*
- *How do I register to vote or update my registration?*
- *What is the status of my voter registration application?*
- *Where do I vote on election day?*
- *How can I ask for a polling place card?*
- *What's on my ballot?*
- *Who are my representatives?*
- *Was my absentee ballot affidavit received?*
- *Was my absentee ballot received and counted?*
- *Was my provisional ballot counted?*

Absentee Services
This directs voters who want to vote by absentee ballot to services based on their situation.
Click the link that describes your situation

- Uniformed service or overseas citizen voter
- Voters who are sick or who have a disability
- All other voters

For Poll Worker Portal click here.
For system requirements click here.
For more information about absentee voting for uniformed service and overseas citizen voters click here.
To contact your Department of Elections or Technical Support click here.

Vote Delaware
Home | Contact | FAQs

Delaware.gov | Privacy | Translate | Contact | Phone Directory

iVOTE.DE.gov- Poll-Book Component

iVOTE.DE.gov- Bringing Services to our customers around the Globe-

- The 'blue area' of the below map represents the origin of visits to the iVOTE.DE.gov web-page-