



# CHRISTI JACOBSEN

MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE



March 6, 2026

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Committee  
State Capitol Building  
Helena, MT 59601

Dear Chair Manzella and Committee,

Please see our responses to your inquiries below.

1. A written copy of your remarks from the January 12<sup>th</sup> SAVA meeting.
  - I believe the context for this request was related to the results from our use of the SAVE system. In the first few weeks of using the system, we were able to identify and confirm 23 noncitizens on our voter rolls. In addition, through SAVE, we identified roughly 900 deceased individuals that we had not received notification of from DPHHS. In a preliminary review, it appears this gap was related to place of death (such as if the elector died out of country).
2. A presentation of the SOS office's budget structure. Specifically, the committee would like a better understanding of how much state money is allocated to the office versus federal funds, how communication projects are funded, and how the Youth Voting Act work is funded.
  - The Interim Budget Committee prepares a report every quarter. Please see the report for more information.
  - Communications projects are routine expenses that are part of our operating budget.
  - As provided in 13-22-107, MCA, the Secretary of State does not spend public money to support the youth voting program, besides the compensation of the employees involved in the program. The statute currently provides the opportunity for a nonprofit corporation to be formed; however, this has not been done during this administration, and, to my knowledge, has never been done.
3. A presentation on the state's UOCAVA laws and any suggestions your office has for legislation, particularly in the area of closing any loopholes, and any security concerns and/or suggestions for the electronic ballot system.
  - The Office recently enhanced the electronic ballot system module and looks forward to its usage in the upcoming Primary Election.

4. Please check/confirm the UOCAVA numbers on slide 11 of [Heather Honey's presentation \[archive.legmt.gov\]](#) (table titled "UOCAVA ballots transmitted 2020 election"). If they are not correct, please provide the correct information.
  - These numbers match our 2020 Federal EAVS report.
5. An update on the poll worker recruitment campaign.
  - Early this year, Secretary Jacobsen launched a robust social media campaign to recruit additional poll workers in preparation for the 2026 election cycle. Leading up to the 2024 election cycle, she created a Poll Worker Application Form on the [votemt.gov](#) webpage, which sends applications directly to the applicable county. We have received over 400 applications since its launch.
  - Secretary Jacobsen has also partnered with Vet the Vote, a nonprofit organization that encourages veterans and military family members nationwide to become poll workers. After the initial launch in 2024, they announced that over 500 Montanans signed up. I expect many more have signed up since that time.
6. An explanation for the Office's decision not to sign the MOU with the US DOJ.
  - Secretary Jacobsen has worked diligently to clean the voter rolls and protect Montanans' privacy. The US DOJ's request is being litigated in 29 states (plus D.C.). Given the highly litigious nature of this topic, we are unable to comment at this time.
7. Status of SB 440 implementation
  - The spreadsheet related to the implementation of SB 440 is close to finalization, awaiting final feedback from counties. Counties were trained at the Election Summit in February on how to use it, and some counties expressed interest in using it during the May Special Election as a trial run.

Regards,



Angela Nunn, Chief Deputy  
Montana Secretary of State