

From: Marc Strassman
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2004 9:35 PM
To: sandra.burr@osd.mil
Subject: SERVE funding

Dear Major Burr,

On February 10, 2004, you wrote to me with answers to some questions I'd sent you about the SERVE program.

1. How much of the \$22 million appropriated for SERVE has been spent and/or committed?

The project cost figures from FY02 to date are \$22 million.

2. How much will DoD save by canceling the program?

We have not cancelled the program.

The Department decided not to use the SERVE system for registration and voting during the 2004 elections. The SERVE project will continue with testing, certification and evaluation activities to assess the feasibility of the use of the Internet for absentee registration and voting in future elections.

3. Where does that saved money go?

There is no saved money.

If DoD/FVAP/SERVE had, by February 10th, spent all \$22 million of the \$22 million appropriated for this project, when the federal election in which SERVE was intended to be used was still nine months away, how, hypothetically, did SERVE intend to pay for the development, testing, certification, implementation, and operation of this system as a means of collecting 100,000 to 200,000 electronic ballots between then and November, 2004? And how, actually, does SERVE intend to pay for the "testing, certification and evaluation activities" you say will continue? Finally, although I've asked this question time and again, and it hasn't been answered just as many times, I'd like to know, since you say SERVE will be involved in "certification...activities," whether or not SERVE will seek to be certified by the only existing set of federal voting standards, namely, the Federal Voting Systems Standards, which are well-known for NOT including any criteria for the certification of remote Internet voting systems? And if not, then according to which standards and by what certification authority will SERVE seek to be certified?

Thank you in advance for helping to provide answers to these questions for the readers of the *Latest VotingNews*.

Regards,

Marc Strassman
Reporter
Latest VotingNews

