

**Voter Action urges you to amend SB 6238/HB 2483 to provide only for electronic transmission of blank ballots, but NOT for the return of voted ballots by fax or e-mail.**

- The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE) only requires that military and overseas voters are able to receive federal election voter registration applications and absentee ballot applications electronically. It further requires that the security and integrity of the voter registration and absentee ballot process be maintained. The Act stopped short of requiring the electronic transmission of voted ballots because a study commissioned by the Pentagon advised against it due to security concerns.
- SB 6238 not only implements MOVE, but goes too far. It provides for the transmittal of voted ballots electronically and fails to take into account the report to the Pentagon and other subsequent reports advising against it.
- To the extent that MOVE requires the security and integrity of the absentee ballot process, SB 6238/HB 2483 fails to comply with it.
- Washington State is already doing significantly better than other states at ensuring that military and overseas votes are returned in a timely fashion, as per testimony of Secretary Reed and an independent report issued by the Pew Center on the States.

We urge you to amend SB 6238/HB 2483 to protect the security and integrity of military and overseas votes.