

From: [Melanie Macey](#)
To: [MDOS-Elections-PublicComment](#)
Subject: Promote the Vote comment on 2025-14 ST
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 3:44:43 PM

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Promote the Vote writes in support of proposed rule 2025-14-ST, which would require a secure live connection between the electronic pollbook (EPB) and the Qualified Voter File (QVF) during voting, when internet access is available. The success of the live EPB system during early voting in 2024 demonstrates its reliability and builds confidence that extending this functionality to Election Day would significantly enhance both accuracy and efficiency. While procedural safeguards exist to address rare but serious ballot errors, real-time updates offer an added layer of protection and would ease the burden on clerks who currently rely on manual checks and post-election reconciliation.

Importantly, this change would also streamline Election Day operations. Clerks in some jurisdictions report receiving hundreds of phone calls from election workers about absentee ballot issues, many of which could be avoided with real-time access to voter data. A live connection would allow for instant updates as voters register or as absentee ballots are received, improving consistency, reducing confusion among poll workers, and decreasing the risk of data-entry errors. Retaining the pre-downloaded EPB as a backup, as required in statute, ensures election continuity even in the event of connectivity issues. This rule strikes the right balance between modernizing election infrastructure and maintaining reliability.

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From: [Ray Moulden](#)
To: [MDOS-Elections-PublicComment](#)
Subject: Live Connectivity for Polling Places on Election Day
Date: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 1:02:05 PM

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Live connectivity on Election Day between Pollbooks and QVF **ON A SECURE CONNECTION** would be a distinct improvement over the current process.

It would:

1. Reduce the need for calls to the Clerk's Office to verify if an AV Ballot has been received
2. Reduce the burden on Clerks to go into QVF and reject the AV Ballot
3. Speed up the service for the voter since no call to the Clerk is needed.
4. Facilitate a more procedurally similar experience for the voter to Early Voting leading to more voter confidence in the system
5. Reduce training needs for Election Inspectors
6. Reduce the possibilities for double voting

I strongly recommend proceeding with allowing for Live Connectivity on Election Day **AS WE ALREADY DO IN EARLY VOTING.**

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