

MILITARY & OVERSEAS VOTING



BACKGROUND

Uniformed & Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)

- Passed in 1986
- Provides the legal basis for military and overseas citizens' absentee voting requirements for federal offices

Military & Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE Act)

- Passed in 2009 after abysmal military and overseas ballot performance in 2006 and 2008
 - approximately 1/3 of ballots mailed out in the 2006 midterms were returned
- Big provisions:
 - Transmit ballots at least 45 days before federal elections
 - Offer at least one method of electronic transmission
- 10-Year Benchmark
 - 53% of ballots sent out were counted

IMPLEMENTATION

Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)

- Initially created through executive order 12642 under President Reagan
 - Amended by HAVA in 2002 and the NDAA in 2002 and 2005
- A component of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (P&R) within the US Department of Defense
- Administers the UOCAVA and NVRA on behalf of the SECDEF

Tools within FVAP


- Assisting States and Territories with compliance and implementation
 - Federal Post Card Application
 - Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot
- Voting Assistance Officers
 - Installation Voting Assistance Officers
 - Unit Voting Assistance Officers

-

OHIO-SPECIFIC

UOCAVA/FVAP Compliance

- Ohio adheres to the 45 day mailing requirement
- Ohio requires boards of election to email ballots to military and overseas voters - currently lack an ability to receive ballots electronically



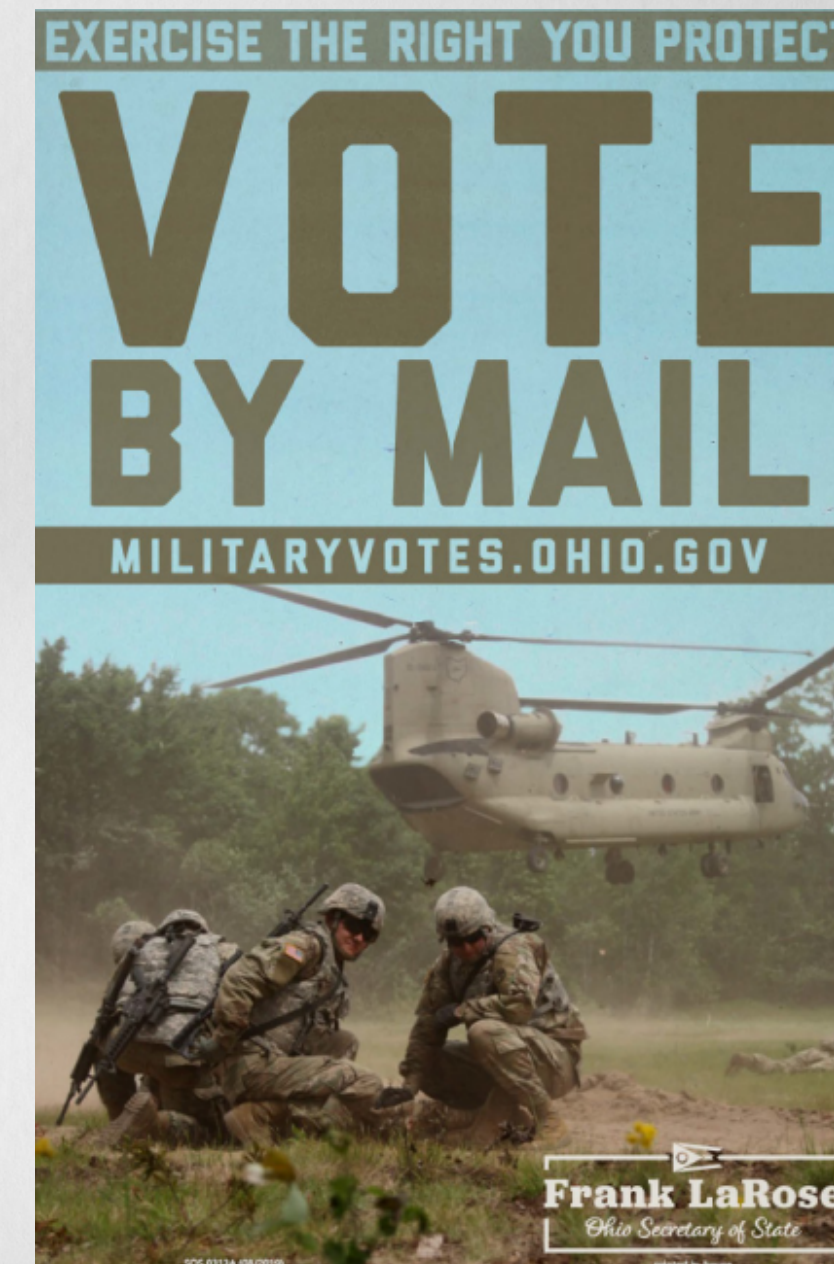
REQUEST AN MRV

Everything you need to register and vote while serving our country.

VISIT [MILITARYVOTES.OHIO.GOV](https://militaryvotes.ohio.gov) TO:

- Request a Military Ready-to-Vote (MRV) packet which is specially designed for Ohio service members, so you can register to vote and request an absentee ballot for all elections in one calendar year, using the same, standard form. No postage is required.
- Sign up for election reminders throughout the year via email.
- Find out what's on the ballot.
- Track your absentee ballot to make sure it was received and counted by local county boards of elections.
- View elections results no matter where you are stationed.

SOS 0312A (08/2019) printed in-house



CHALLENGES

Voting Assistance Officers

- Installations are only required to have them every even year - midyear elections are often overlooked
- Not standardized in promotion to deploying members are returning members
- Compliance is hard to enforce
- Promotion is even more challenging

Deployed Servicemembers

- The above challenges also exist in deployed locations
- Compound with technology and infrastructure challenges

QUESTIONS?