

Voting System Certification

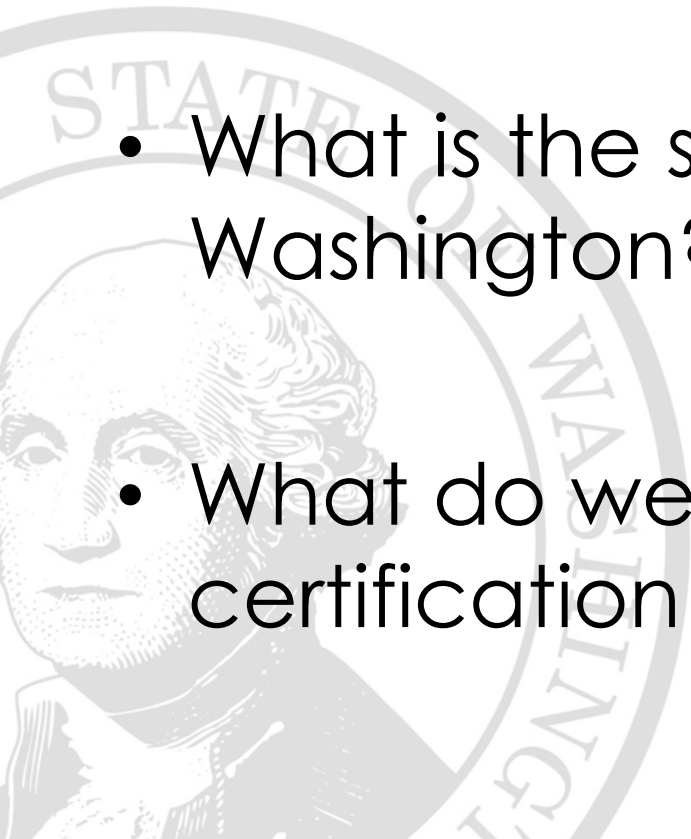
Washington State's Perspective

Lori Augino
Director of Elections

June 4, 2014

Questions I'll answer

- How does certification work in Washington?
- What is the state of the systems in Washington?
- What do we want from a federal certification system?



Certification in Washington

Tabulation Systems must be –

- Tested and approved through the United States Election Assistance Commission via an approved voting system test laboratory
- Tested and certified by the Washington Secretary of State
- Acceptance tested by the local elections official



Provisional Certification

- Ahhhh, we've just changed state law!
How are we going to tabulate those votes that way?
- We can test and approve
 - No EAC lab necessary
 - Not permanent approval

State of our systems

- 39 Washington Counties
 - Operate one of three election management systems
 - Operate one of three tabulation systems
 - Partner with multiple vendors providing other services and products
- Aging hardware
- Outdated software
- Ongoing maintenance needs
- Certification deadlock

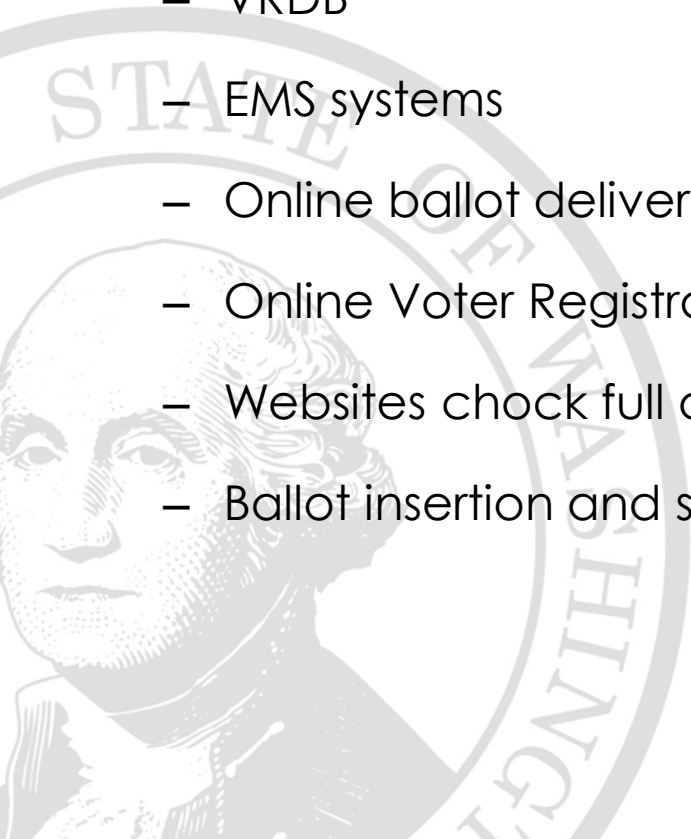
Voting System - Challenges

- Need new equipment. But what can we buy?
- Varying levels of commitment and customer service from vendors
- AVUs going unused



Technical System - Challenges

- But what about all those other systems we use?
 - VRDB
 - EMS systems
 - Online ballot delivery tools
 - Online Voter Registration
 - Websites chock full of info
 - Ballot insertion and sorting equipment



Technical System - Challenges

- Lack of ability to respond quickly
- Systems have to share data
- Systems need to work together
- Not very efficient

We increase our risk by requiring all of these systems to work together.

Looking to the future – Creating our technical advisory committee

We are working to build a system that serves us, our voters, and all our stakeholders.

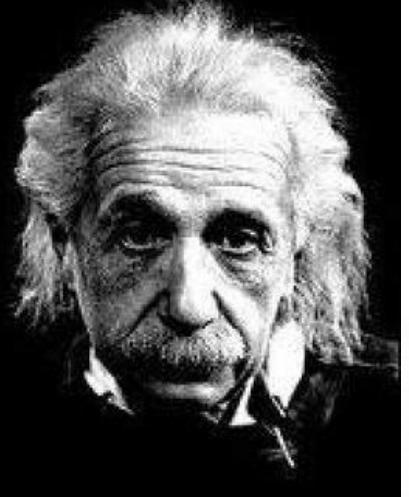
1 Hear from stakeholders

2 Learn from other states

3 Learn from our vendors

4 Develop a plan for the future

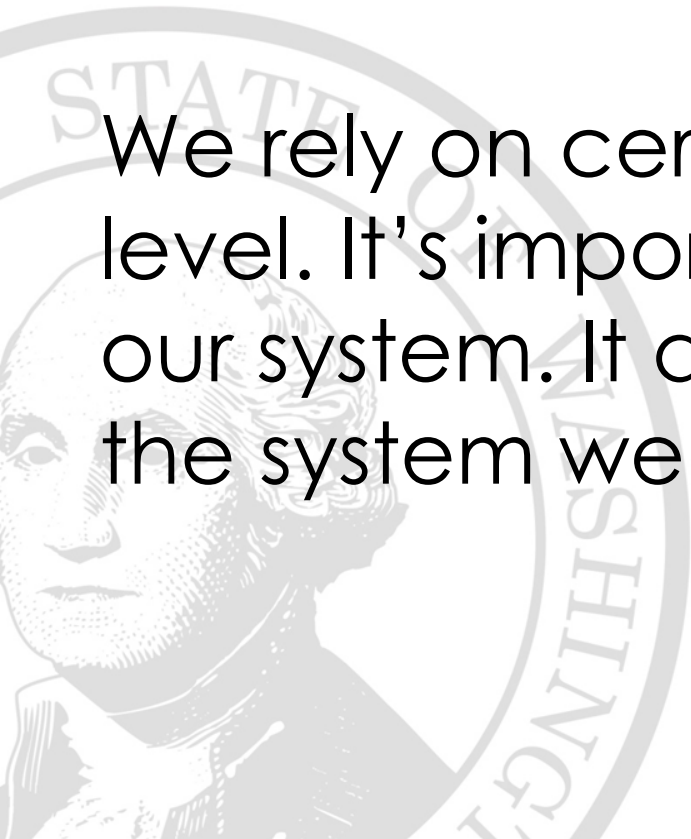
"WE CANNOT
SOLVE OUR
PROBLEMS
WITH THE SAME
THINKING WE
USED WHEN WE
CREATED THEM"



What do we want?

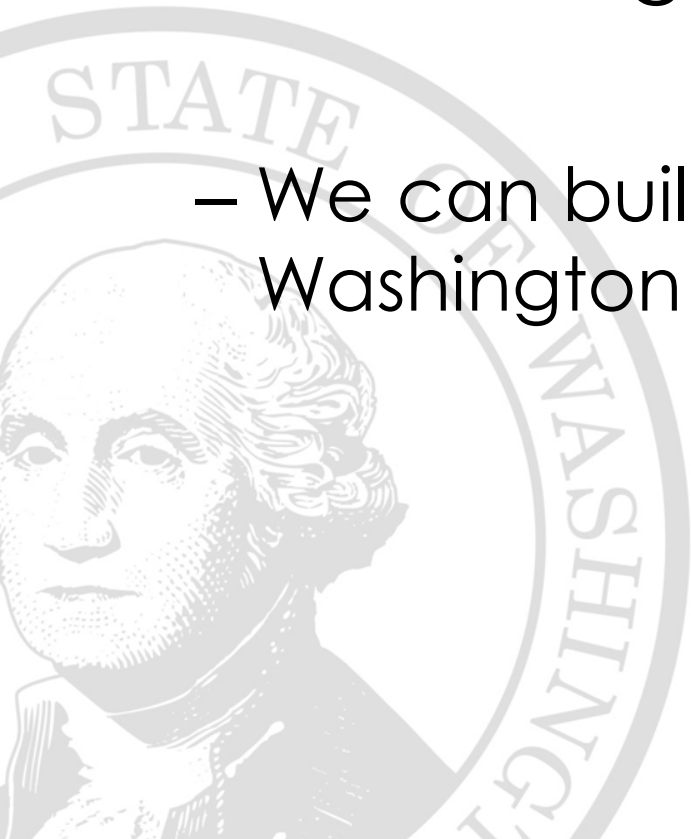
- And how can federal certification help us get there?

We rely on certification at the federal level. It's important. It adds credibility to our system. It doesn't have to look like the system we have today.



What should it look like?

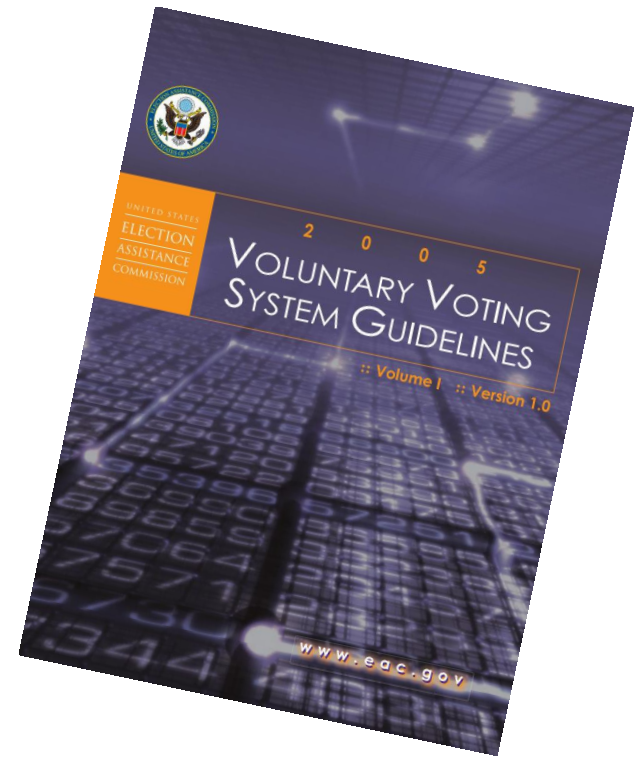
- Create a testing and certification floor, not a ceiling
 - We can build a state testing program for Washington's specific requirements



What should it look like?

- Create standards I can read, understand, and explain

– Have you read the VVSGs?



What should it look like?

- Create a timely certification process

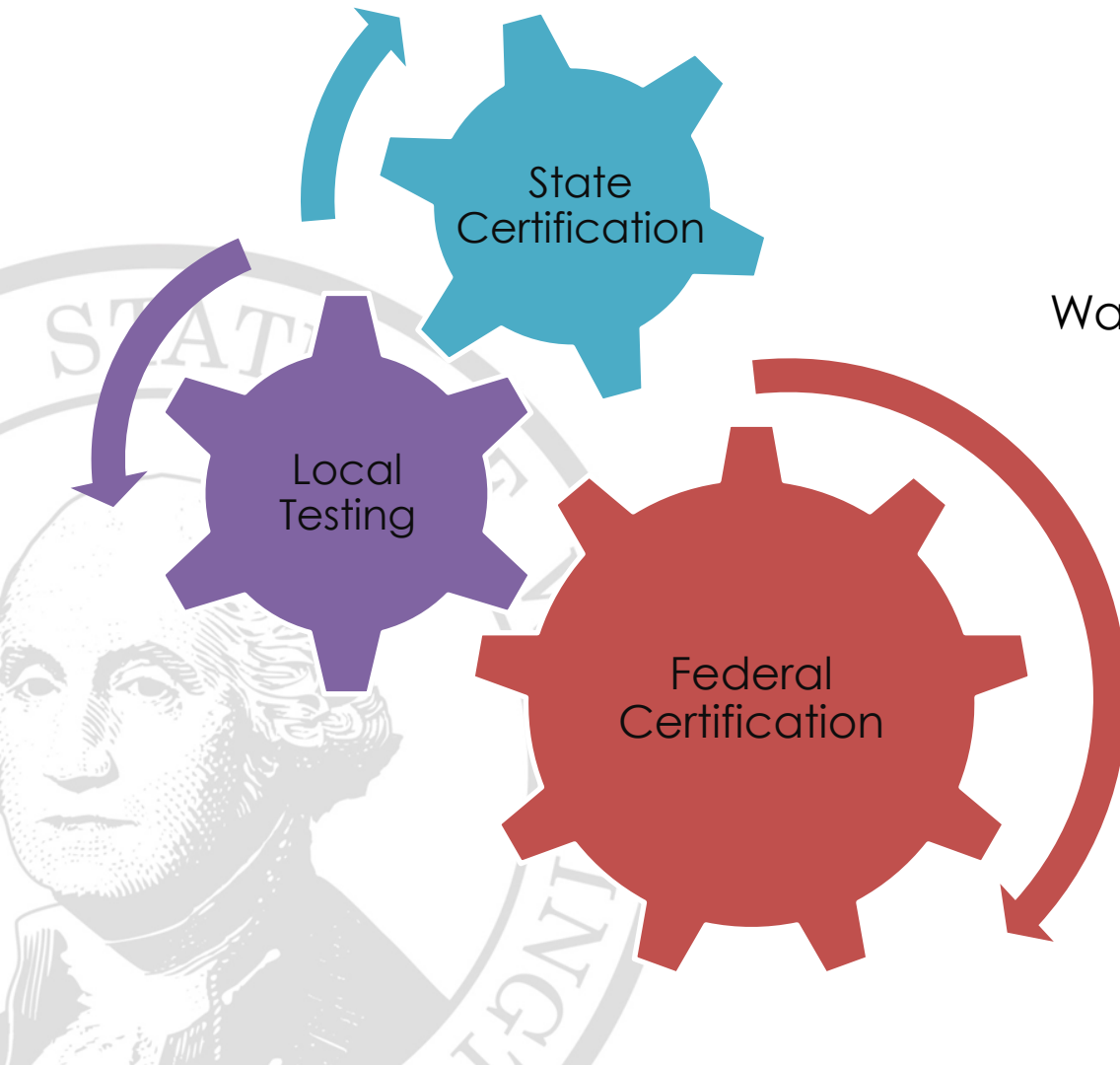


What should it look like?

- Consider expanding the systems we certify and test



Questions?



Lori Augino
Washington Director of Elections
lori.augino@sos.wa.gov
360-725-5771

Thank you!