



**County of Fresno**  
COUNTY CLERK / REGISTRAR OF VOTERS  
**VICTOR E. SALAZAR**

June 24, 2004

John A. Perez, Chairman  
Voting Modernization Board  
California Secretary of State  
P. O. Box 944260  
Sacramento, Ca. 94244-2600

Dear Chairman Perez:

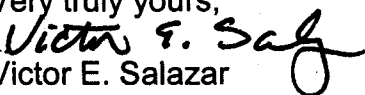
Fresno County utilizes optical scanning voting devices in our elections. Given the heightened controversy over touch screen voting machines, we have chosen not to change the format of our election system.

However, we fully intend to comply with State and Federal accessibility requirements for disabled voters. Our dilemma is the uncertainty as to the certification status of DRE's in our state. Therefore, we are unable to enter into a purchase agreement at this time because vendors can not assure us their elections systems will qualify for certification.

Fresno County is not alone in this dilemma. We had hoped to present our concerns before the Voting Modernization Board; however, due to the recent rescheduling of the past two meetings, this has not been possible.

Given the County RFP requirements, it takes considerable time to complete the contractual process. Therefore, we request that the Voting Modernization Board give due consideration to extending the January, 2005 deadline. If the deadline cannot be continued, it would be helpful for the requirements to be changed to allow the counties such as ours the benefit of the Voting Modernization Bond Act and utilization of resources as proposed by the Act.

I thank you for your consideration and look forward to addressing your board at its next meeting.

Very truly yours,  
  
Victor E. Salazar  
County Clerk/Registrar of Voters

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