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**State of Vermont  
Office of the Secretary of State**

128 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05633-1101

[phone] 802-828-2363  
[fax] 802-828-2496  
[www.sec.state.vt.us](http://www.sec.state.vt.us)

**James C. Condos, Secretary of State  
Brian H. Leven, Deputy Secretary**

September 26, 2011  
For immediate release  
Contact: Nancy T. Lynch (802.828.2148)

## News Release

### **Municipal Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities (VOTE)**

*Montpelier, Vt-* Secretary of State Jim Condos is pleased to announce the 2012 Request for Proposals (RFP) under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) to improve voting opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Municipal Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities (MV AID), is intended to help ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to polling places. Funding will be available to municipalities. If the polling place is in a school, the school district is considered a municipality and may apply for funding. Municipalities may apply to receive funds to ensure that their polling facility is accessible to individuals with a full range of disabilities. This may include activities such as paving parking areas, building ramps inside/outside buildings, building curb cuts, improving lighting and replacing door knobs with lever handles.

**Applications are due October 12, 2011.** The grant period runs from November 15, 2011 to October 31, 2012. **Priority will be given to those polling places that sustained damage from tropical storm Irene.**

*"We felt that it was vitally important to make it a priority to first fund those areas most impacted by tropical storm Irene. This is just one example of our commitment to help make those communities whole again, as soon as possible. We believe these grants can help us in meeting that goal, even if in a small way," stated Secretary Condos.*

You can download the application and all required forms from the Elections Division webpage of our website, under the HAVA 2002. Look for: HAVA RFP for Municipalities 2012. If you prefer a paper copy, please notify Linda Hall at 802-828-0586 or [lhall@sec.state.vt.us](mailto:lhall@sec.state.vt.us)

*Jim Condos is Vermont's Secretary of State, after serving eight years as a Vermont State Senator, 18 years in local government and 30+ years of private sector business experience.*

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