

Election Education Research Task Force
Mail Ballot Election Pros/Cons
April 26, 2006

	Pros	Cons
1	Thoughtful method that can be done at home.	If a candidate drops out of the race anybody that votes early may be throwing their vote because the candidate was still in the race when they voted.
2	No multimillion output for DRE's required.	Far greater chance of fraud with people moving around so much.
3	Eliminates the need to recruit election judges and locate polling places.	We are already investing money in machines that won't be used.
4	They tend to be less expensive.	USPS needs to be geared to handle the mail. Election employees need to be at each postal station watching processes.
5	Gives voter the opportunity to research issues/candidates in their own time.	There is less control at the point when the ballots are mailed out and when they are received back in the election department.
6	Easier to administer from an election official's standpoint.	Mail ballot elections are not universally loved by voters.
7	Increased turnout.	Less security than at the poll places in regards to identification?
8	Better ballot security?	Greater chance of whim voting.
9		Decreases the social connections and our social interactions.
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Mail Ballot Election Flow Chart

