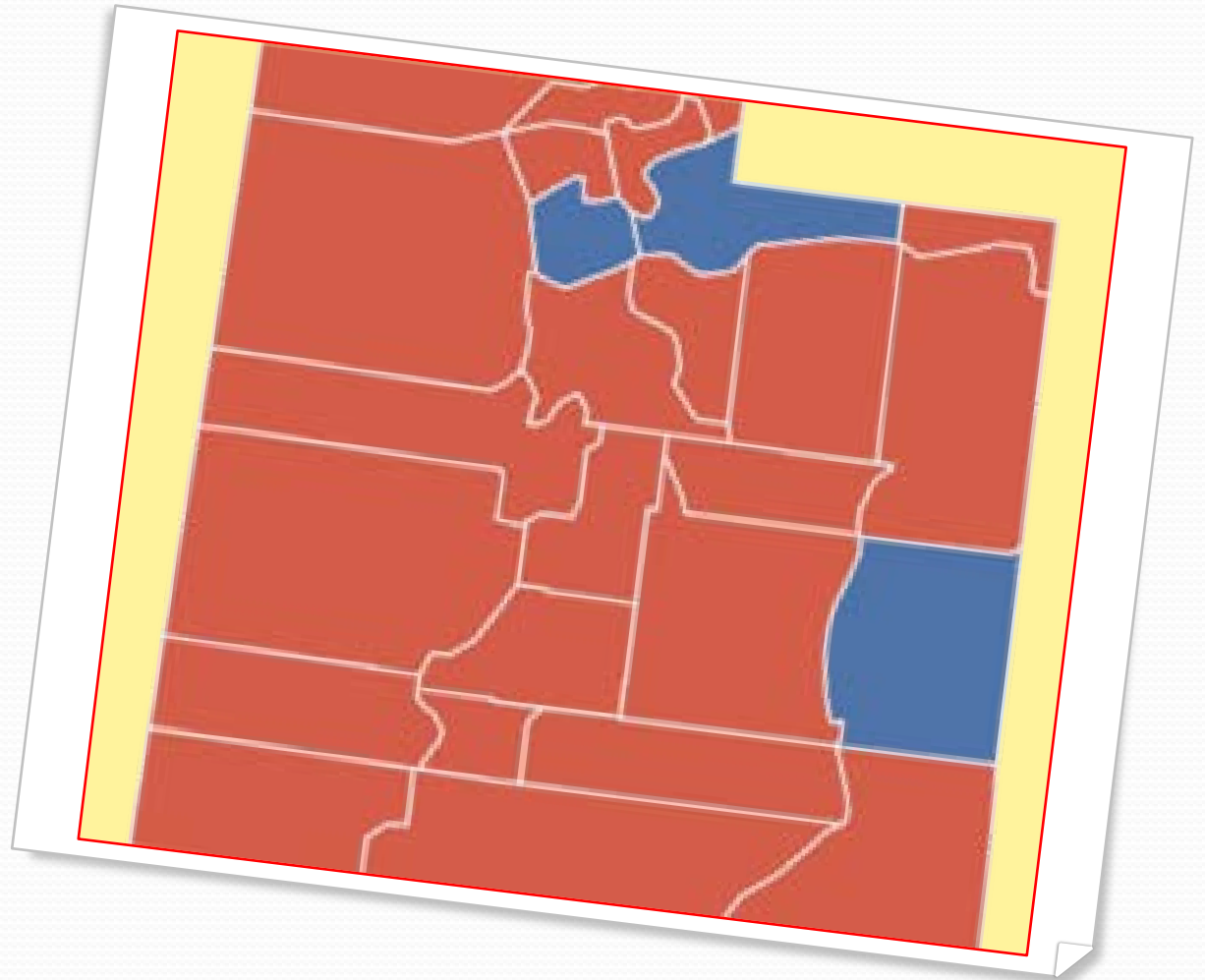


# Utah Election Law

Marginal Modifications to Facilitate  
the Student Voting Experience

# Voter Registration Dynamic is Changing

- ❖ Centralized database of registered voters
- ❖ Electronic submission of voter registration form matched against DMV database



# Early Voting Stations

## Locations



- ❖ U of U EVS had over 7,000 voters, ranking second highest in Salt Lake County
  - ❖ Clerk estimated 70% were students
- ❖ UVU EVS had around 4,400 voters, ranking second highest in Utah County
- ❖ Weber and Utah State had a significant showing
- ❖ Around 40% of population voted early in 2008(including absentee)
  - ❖ System still new; more turnout with more marketing, but requires funding
  - ❖ Need more as 50% threshold is reached



# Recommendations

- ❖ Modify online voter registration deadline
- ❖ Introduce additional early voting satellite stations

# Move online voter registration deadline closer to election day

## ❖ Positives

- ❖ According to Clerks, not much difference between in-office registration and online registration
- ❖ Provides more opportunity for candidates and GOTV organizers (student leaders) to register people to vote
- ❖ Mobilizing effect, news coverage at its peak
- ❖ Students: young and residentially mobile are more likely to take advantage, highest effect among those with some college

## ❖ Negatives

- ❖ Candidates are concerned about registration inflation before election

## ❖ Response to negatives

- ❖ Candidates can employ the same strategy, registration carries no voter guarantee

# More Early Voting Satellite Stations

## ❖ Positives

- ❖ Mixed data: Higher in-person voter turnout in midterm elections with EVS, marginal increases in other elections
- ❖ More opportunity for mobile groups (students)
- ❖ Broad citizen support
- ❖ Procedural integrity: more accurate count

## ❖ Negatives

- ❖ Difficult for candidates to campaign during this time

## ❖ Response to negatives

- ❖ Partisan voters most likely to utilize EVS and are less swayed by campaign rhetoric

## ❖ **College Campuses are great locations!!!**

- ❖ Potential early voting centers: SLCC, SUU

# Benefits From Higher Voter Turnout

- ❖ Accountability for our leaders
- ❖ History, predecessors and their sacrifices are honored
- ❖ Array of opinions are expressed
- ❖ Democratic system is respected
- ❖ For students
  - ❖ Voter data is collected, giving candidates info on who they should target
  - ❖ The higher the vote, the more you are listened to