

**BEN YSURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE**

sosinfo@sos.idaho.gov
www.sos.idaho.gov



700 West Jefferson
PO Box 83720
Boise ID 83720-0080

Phone: (208) 334 – 2300

Fax:
Business Entities (208) 334 – 2080
UCC (208) 334 – 2847
All other divisions (208) 334 – 2282

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Contact: Election Division, Secretary of State (208) 334-2852

**Secretary of State Ysursa announces
Voting System Certification Hearings**

PRESS RELEASE

Today Secretary of State Ben Ysursa announced certification hearings for the latest upgrades to the Election Systems and Software optical scan voting system. The public is encouraged to attend.

**Wednesday, April 4 and Thursday, April 5
Both hearings begin at 9:00**

The hearing on Wednesday, April 4, will evaluate upgrades to the Election Systems and Software optical scan tabulators, models M100 and M650, and the Unity election software. The hearing will be held at the Joe R. Williams Building 700 West State Street, Boise Idaho, East Conference Room, 1st floor.

The hearing on Thursday, April 5, will evaluate upgrades to improve the performance of the AutoMARK ballot marking device which is used to comply with the accessibility requirements of the Help America Vote Act of 2002. The hearing will be held in the Gold Room at the State Capitol on the 4th floor.

The purpose of these hearings is to evaluate the latest upgrades to the ES&S optical scan voting system.

Comments from Secretary Ysursa:

“I encourage the public to attend these hearings as the ES&S optical scan voting system has been used in the past in 15 counties and will be used by several counties in 2008 possibly affecting nearly 70 percent of the registered voters in Idaho.”