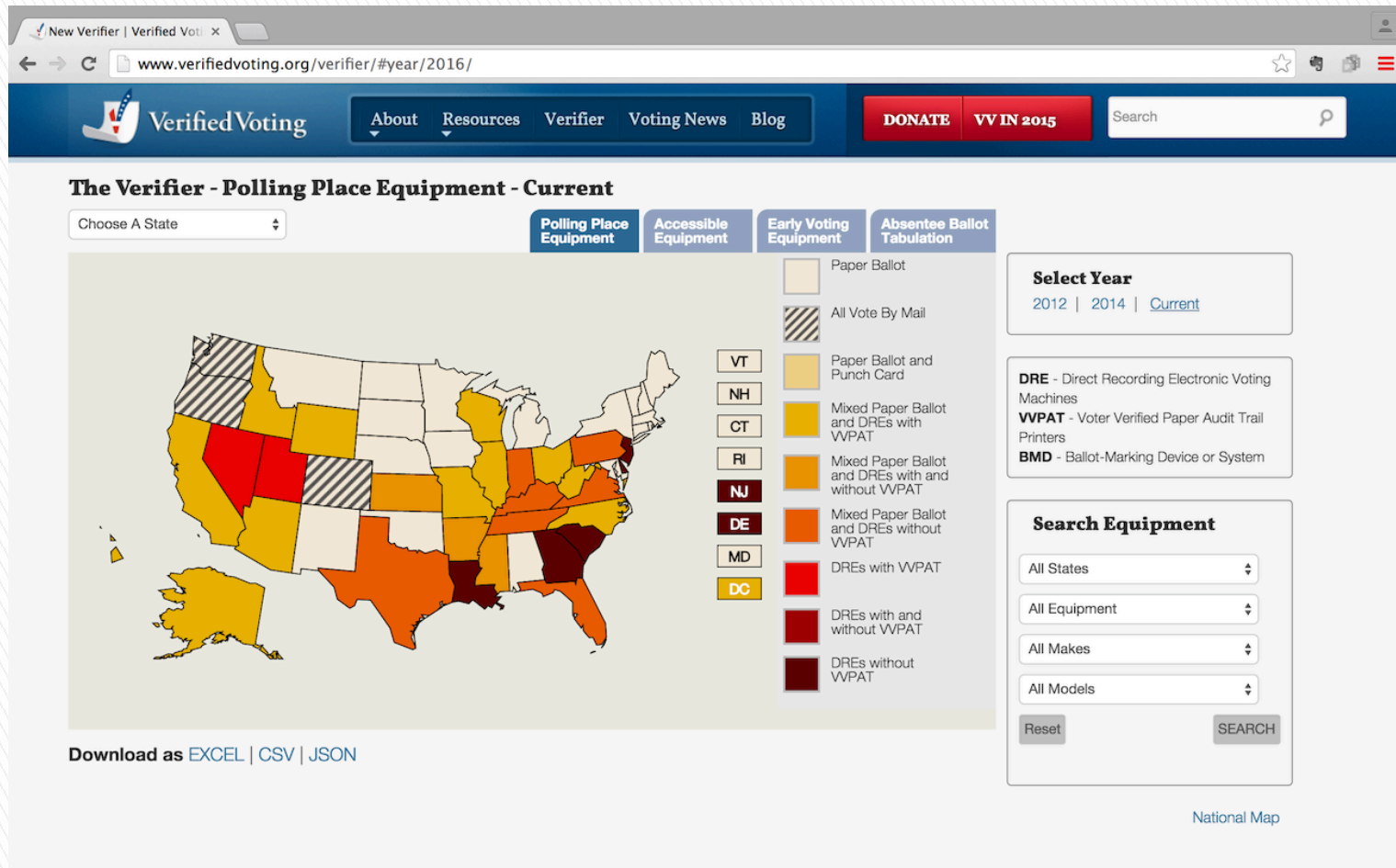# Funding Democracy

Pamela Smith
Future of California Elections | May 2016
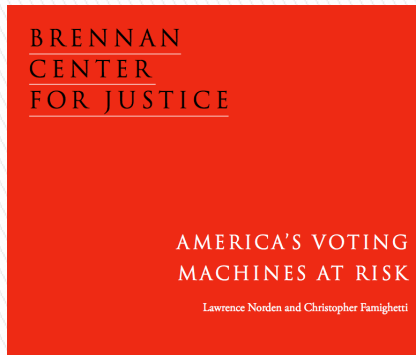
Voting Systems in the US 2016

Aging Voting Systems = Crisis

President's Commission on Election Administration (PCEA) Report

the Presidential Commission on Election Administration

BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE

AMERICA'S VOTING MACHINES AT RISK

Lawrence Norden and Christopher Famighetti

Brennan Center Report

Sec. Padilla, RoV Kelley Op-ed:
"A threat to California elections is on the horizon. CA voting equipment is near its life expectancy."

The Mercury News
OPINION

What Drives (election tech) Costs?

▸ Voting & counting devices: scanner/tabulator; ballot marking system; DRE; printer

▸ Other equipment: electronic pollbooks; ballot on demand printers; election night reporting systems; mail sorters

▸ Licensing fees/hardware, software, firmware; Consumables

▸ Voting booths; storage racks; transport devices; etc.

How much $? "It depends."

- Volume

- Laws

- Voting mode

- Other factors

Managing costs

- Lease/Lease to own/Financing

- Shared costs; bulk buying discounts

- Better contracting

- Different modes, technologies

- Unintended consequences…

Recommendations & Caveats

- Support county needs, especially those with fewer resources

- Look to new models: Los Angeles; San Francisco; Travis County TX

  - Flexibility; COTS; common data format; better accessibility

- Different kind of funding stream

Bottom Line

Fund smart:
Data driven + voter-driven

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