



2017
Annual
Report



Letter from the Executive Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I'm pleased to present the 2017 Annual Report from the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). ERIC is a nonprofit membership organization for state election officials. Our mission is to improve the accuracy of America's voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. ERIC is funded by participating states and managed by a Board of Directors comprised of a representative from each member state - either its chief election official or their designee. Founded in 2012 by seven states, by 2017 ERIC included 22 states and the District of Columbia. Over the last five years ERIC has grown steadily by adhering to a few core principles:

STATE RUN

ERIC's real innovation is in its governance structure. We may use cutting edge data matching technology, but the key to our success is how we operate. States choose to join and agree to work collaboratively to remove dead voters and duplicate registrations, update voters' addresses, lawfully remove voters who've moved out of a jurisdiction, and reach out to eligible citizens with information on how to register to vote. All of this is done in compliance with the federal National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act.

SERVICE & VALUE

We are an effective tool that helps election officials perform quality list maintenance and targeted voter registration education, while reducing costs. We like to think of ourselves as a good government solution to the very real challenges of maintaining accurate voter rolls. We're not flashy. We're not pushy. We focus on our strengths while looking for ways to better accomplish our mission.

SECURITY & PRIVACY

Our members entrust us with their data and we protect it using proven technologies and best practices. We approach this responsibility with vigilance and a mindset of continuous improvement. This is job one for us.

I invite you to explore this report to learn more about what ERIC accomplished in 2017. Have questions? Email us at info@ericstates.org, or explore the rest of our website. Finally, a big thank you to John Lindback for preparing this, ERIC's first Annual Report. As a member of the Pew Election Initiatives team, John was part of the working group that created ERIC. He also served as ERIC's first Executive Director and currently serves as a member of the ERIC Board. Thank you, John!

Sincerely,



Shane Hamlin

Executive Director



The Transition to New Leadership in 2017

Shane Hamlin of Olympia, WA., former Co-Director of Elections in the Washington Secretary of State's Office, was selected from a pool of talented applicants to serve as ERIC's Executive Director, beginning on July 1, 2017. Hamlin replaced John Lindback, who retired from full-time employment after serving as Executive Director from Jan. 1, 2014 until July 1, 2017. The ERIC Board of Directors issued a recruitment notice calling for applicants with experience in elections administration and received 18 applications. The ERIC Board of Directors' Executive Committee acted as the hiring committee, which screened the applications

and interviewed five finalists. The Executive Committee issued its recommendation of Shane Hamlin to the ERIC Board of Directors and the vote was unanimous to accept the recommendation. Hamlin had previous experience with ERIC. He served as the first Chairman of the ERIC Board of Directors when the organization was formed in 2012. He represented Washington on the board, one of the original seven to join ERIC.

Board of Directors Executive Committee

Edgardo Cortes

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Commissioner, Virginia Department of Elections

Mark Thomas

Vice-Chair

Director of Elections, Utah Lt. Governor's Office

Elaine Manlove

Treasurer

Commissioner of Elections, Delaware

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Angie Rogers

Immediate Past Chair

Director of Elections, Louisiana Secretary of State

Peggy Reeves

Executive Committee member

Director of Elections, Connecticut Secretary of State

Wayne Thorley

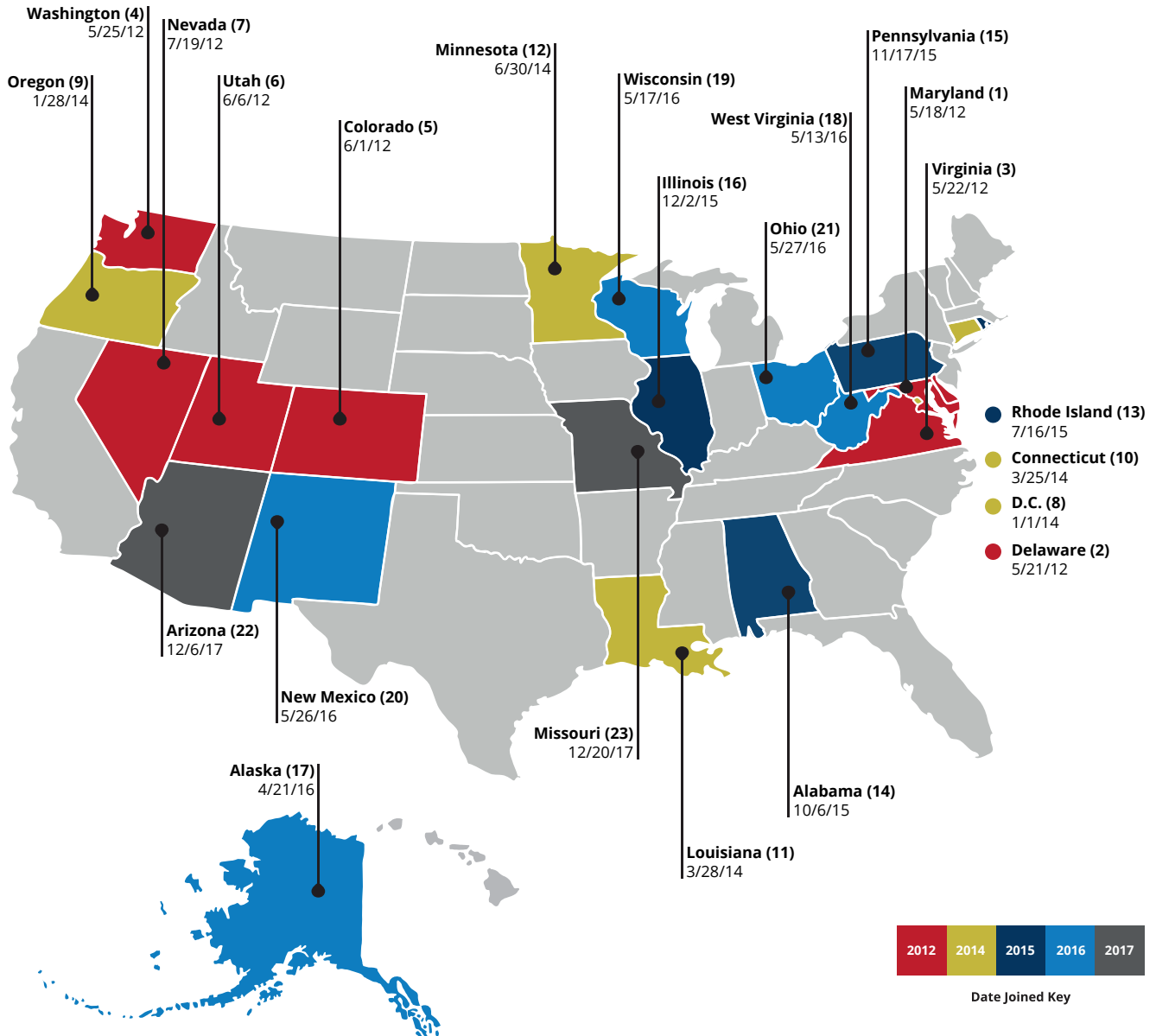
Executive Committee member

Deputy Secretary for Elections, Nevada

Membership Continues Steady Climb in 2017

Two more states, Arizona and Missouri, joined ERIC in 2017, increasing membership to 22 states and the District of Columbia. The steady growth means that 37 % of the United States voting-eligible population in 2017 lived and/or voted in an ERIC state or Washington, DC. ERIC expects steady growth to continue in 2018 and 2019. For example, Florida lawmakers have adopted legislation that would enable the state to join ERIC in 2019. To join ERIC, the state's chief elections official must sign the ERIC Mem-

bership Agreement, which includes a set of requirements for submitting state data to ERIC, receiving ERIC reports, and acting on data received from ERIC. The new member pays a one-time \$25,000 initiation fee and agrees to pay annual dues as approved by the full membership. ERIC was launched in 2012 by seven states: Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Washington, Colorado, Utah, and Nevada.



The Big Numbers

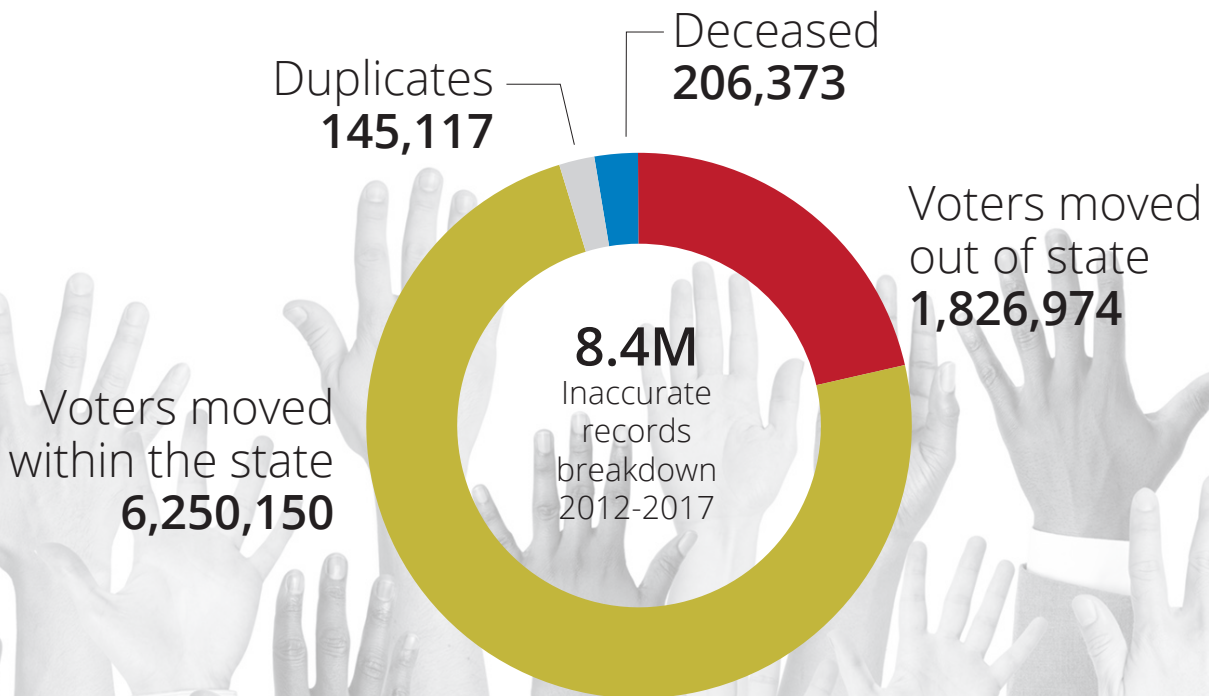
ERIC climbed to new heights in 2017 in its mission to help member states clean up outdated voter rolls and to identify potential new voters. By the close of 2017 ERIC, since its inception, has identified 26.5 million Americans who were potentially eligible to vote but unregistered. Member states reached out to those individuals with information on how to register to vote. By the close of the calendar year, ERIC had identified, since its inception in 2012, more than 8.4 million individual voter registrations to member states that were no longer accurate. The voters had moved out of state, had moved within the state, had a duplicate record within the state's system, or the voter had died.

26.5M

Unregistered potential voters identified since ERIC's inception.

8.4M

Individual voter registrations in member states that were no longer accurate.



Security and Privacy

An independent review of ERIC's data security practices, procedures, and facilities cleared the way in 2017 for ERIC to continue to receive federal data on deaths in the United States. The Social Security Death Master File, sometimes referred to as the "Social Security Death Index," is used by ERIC to identify voters who have died so that they can be removed from ERIC states' voter rolls. The removal from the rolls of deceased voters is integral to achieving efficiency and cost savings for elections officials. Since its inception in 2012 ERIC has used the federal data to help inform member states of more than 200,000 deceased voters still on their rolls. ERIC pays the federal government \$4,800 annually for its certification and subscription to the data on deceased Americans. Prior to 2016, the federal government imposed no security requirements on parties purchasing the death data. A new regulation, adopted in November, 2016, requires that ERIC and other parties renewing their license to receive the data obtain an attestation from a qualified, third party that it conforms with a set of federal security standards. The regulation requires that a review be conducted every three years. ERIC hired A-LIGN, a data security auditing company, to review its procedures and security practices. After a four-month review, performed by A-LIGN auditors in August, 2017, A-LIGN signed an attestation that ERIC meets the federal standards. ERIC paid \$18,100 for the review, \$16,000 to A-LIGN and \$2,100 in certification fees to the federal government. A-LIGN examined 174 individual pieces of evidence in its review relating to ERIC's management practices, security procedures, and facilities. Prior to joining ERIC some states purchased the Death Master File on their own and matched it against their voter database. When a state joins ERIC it splits the annual cost of access to the death data with the other member states via annual ERIC

dues payments. The new federal requirement now also means that a state doesn't need to pay the cost of a security review on its own. They receive the benefits of access to the Death Master File, and an assurance that security of the data meets federal standards, as a result of their ERIC membership.

>200k

Deceased voters identified on the voter rolls of member states since ERIC's inception in 2012.



ERIC's management practices, security procedures, and facilities were reviewed and certified to federal standards by A-LIGN in 2017.

A-LIGN is one of the only companies in the world that is licensed CPA firm, Qualified Security Assessor Company (QSAC), accredited ISO 27001 certification body, certified HITRUST Assessor firm, and accredited FedRAMP 3PAO.

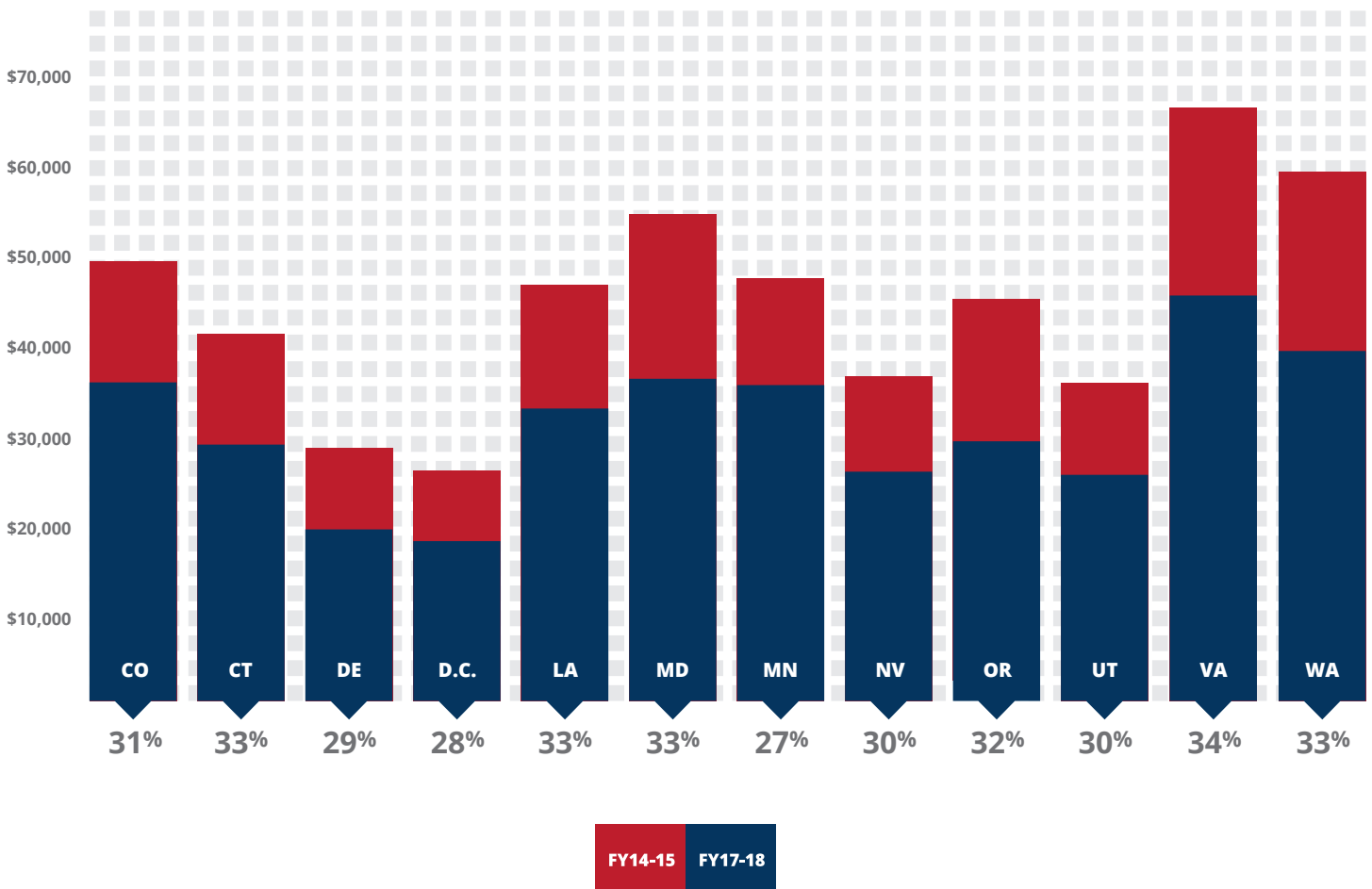
Members See Steady Reduction in Dues

As ERIC grew from seven to 22 states plus the District of Columbia, the annual dues payments for members dropped because there were more states to split the costs. Below is a sampling of states that are among ERIC's first members and their annual dues payments. Dues paid dropped by 27 percent to 34 percent between FY14-15 and FY17-18. The ERIC membership votes each year on annual dues payments. The dues are based 50 percent on the number of states in ERIC and 50 percent on the Citizen Voting Age Population in each state. The formula requires high-population states to pay more than low-population members.

27-34%

Reduction in dues between FY14-15 and FY17-18.

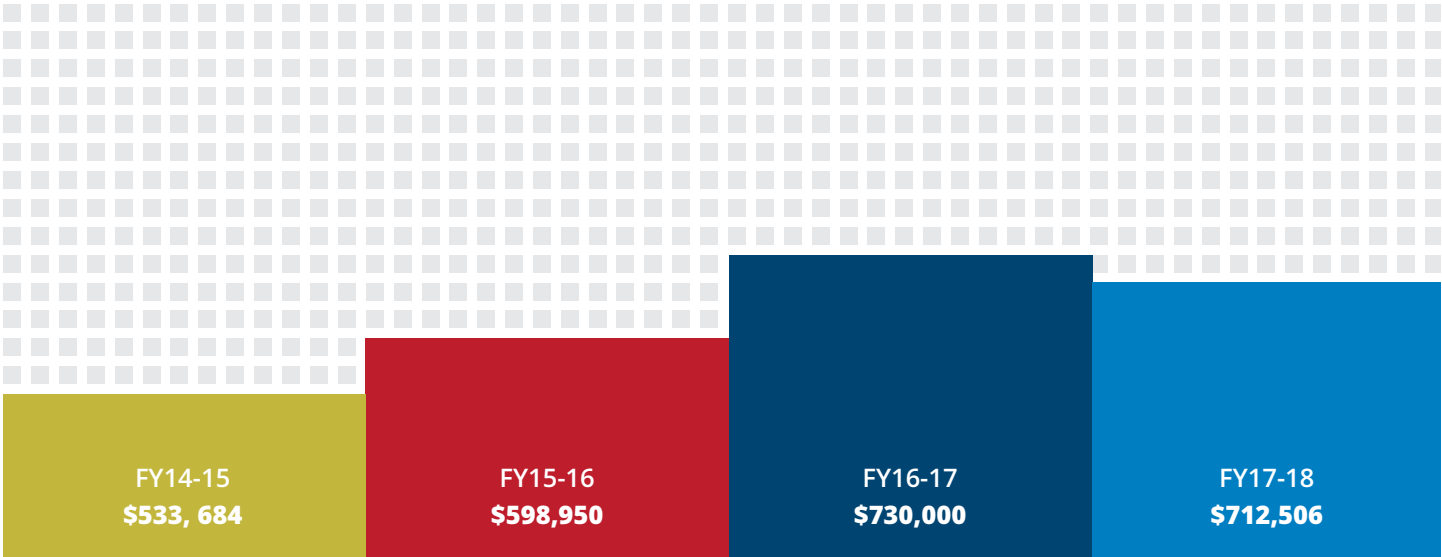
Dues Reduction Over 4 Year Period for ERIC's First 12 Member States



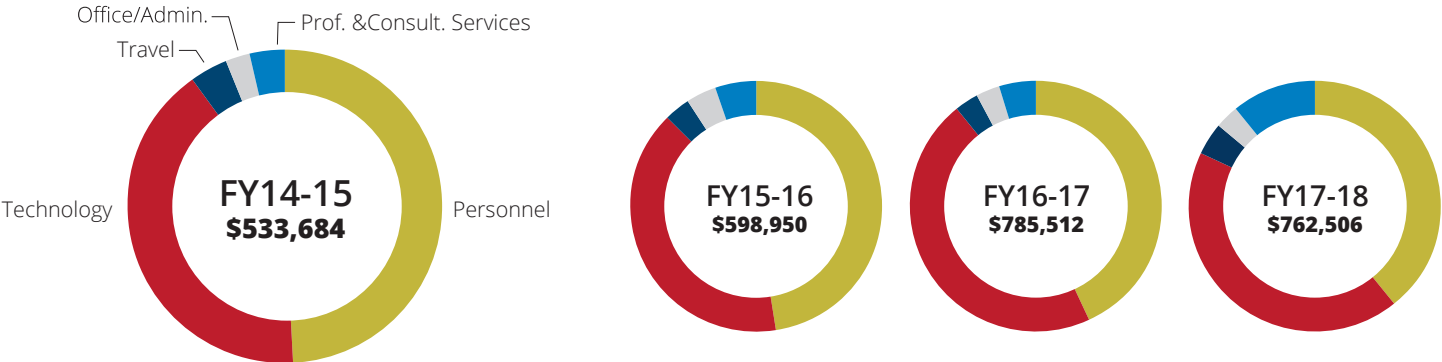
History of Board-Approved Budgets

ERIC's budgets and income have increased steadily to accommodate growth in the number of participating states and the services they receive. Example: The budget in FY14-15 of \$533,684 accommodated services provided to 15 states and the District of Columbia. The Board of Directors approved a budget of \$762,506 in FY17-18 to serve 22 states and the District of Columbia. ERIC spending has stayed within budget for each year of its existence. The collection of a \$25,000 initiation fee from each state that joins has helped create reserves of more than \$500,000. Reserve funds are used to purchase technology upgrades and system improvements as the number of participating states increase. The Board of Directors has approved small draws on reserves during the FY16-17 and FY17-18 budget years to support operating expenses and help keep annual dues payments by the states as low as possible.

Budget by Fiscal Year



Expenses by Fiscal Year



The Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) is a non-profit organization with the sole mission of assisting states to improve the accuracy of America's voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. ERIC is governed and managed by states who choose to join, and was formed in 2012 with assistance from The Pew Charitable Trusts.

The seven states that pioneered the formation of ERIC in 2012 are: Colorado, Delaware, Maryland, Nevada, Utah, Virginia, and Washington. Washington D.C., Oregon, Connecticut, Louisiana, and Minnesota joined in 2014, Alabama, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island in 2015, Alaska, Ohio, New Mexico, West Virginia and Wisconsin in 2016, Arizona and Missouri in 2017, and South Carolina and Iowa in 2018.

The states were inspired to create ERIC due to the challenges in maintaining the accuracy of voter registration records. While most private industry, and many government agencies, have updated their systems to take advantage of modern technology, voter registration systems remain largely based on 19th century tools, such as handwriting on paper forms and postal mail. The inherent inefficiencies in the system result in unnecessarily high costs, and make it difficult to keep voter rolls clean throughout the country.

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Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc.

1155 F Street NW Suite 1050
Washington DC 20004
Phone: (202)695-3464
Fax: (866)200-2651
info@ericstates.org

