

April 4, 2025

## To the Honorable Commissioners

U.S. Election Assistance Commission 633 3rd Street NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20001

## **Subject: Assistance on Strengthening Standards for Transparent and Secure Voting Systems**

Dear Chairman Palmer, Commissioners McCormick, Hovland, Hicks, and Technical Guidelines Development Committee Chair Burkhardt

My name is Gerard Dache, and I serve as the Executive Director of the Government Blockchain Association (GBA)—a US based global nonprofit organization composed of over 5,000 members, including public sector leaders, blockchain experts, technologists, academic researchers and election experts.

GBA's mission is to advance the responsible adoption of blockchain and related technologies to improve government and private sector operations, particularly in areas where transparency, trust, and integrity are paramount.

We commend the Election Assistance Commission for its leadership in developing and maintaining the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines, certifying testing laboratories, voting systems, and supporting election officials nationwide. EAC's commitment to enhancing accessibility, accuracy, security, and voter confidence in U.S. elections aligns closely with our own objectives and ongoing work.

As an example, GBA developed the <u>Blockchain Maturity Model (BMM)</u><sup>1</sup> — a standards-based framework designed to assess the maturity and reliability of blockchain-enabled solutions.

The GBA has also established a Voting Working Group consisting of both U.S. election professionals and representatives from U.S. technology firms with hands-on experience deploying electoral systems.

The <u>BMM Voting Supplement</u><sup>2</sup> provides a rigorous, independently validated approach for assessing blockchain voting platforms across the entire election lifecycle, including integration with the authorized eligible voter list, constructing ballots, tallying, reporting, auditing, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://gbaglobal.org/blockchain-maturity-model

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://bit.ly/BMM-Voting



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certification. Specific focus is placed on verifiability, immutability, and voter privacy through the use of scientific and technological breakthroughs such as zero-knowledge proofs and quantum-resistant cryptographic protection. We believe this model may be useful in complementing the EAC's existing certification standards, particularly as jurisdictions explore online voting (e.g. serving UOCAVA and disabled voters) and hybrid voting channels.

Our Voting Working Group Membership includes C-level executives at multiple organizations providing <u>decentralized voting solutions</u><sup>3</sup> that are currently used in many nations. You can see other digital voting resources on our <u>Voting Resources</u><sup>4</sup> page. Our membership is, therefore, uniquely qualified to provide guidance and expertise to election authorities on any digital voting initiative.

We respectfully request the opportunity to brief your team on our work and discuss synergies with the EAC's efforts to comply with the March 25, 2025, Executive Order "Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections" and the Commission's own efforts to advance secure, accessible, and transparent election systems.

Please let us know when and how we may meet with your staff and/or provide additional input for your review and consideration. You can contact our Voting Working Group directly at VotingWG@GBAglobal.org.

Sincerely,

Gerard R. Dache

**Executive Director** 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://gbaglobal.org/web3-solutions/#elections

<sup>4</sup> https://gbaglobal.org/wg-resources-voting