

Computer Systems Outage Limits Early Voting, Issue of Photo IDs

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MADISON - An hours-long state server failure on Friday affected the Department of Transportation's ability to issue photo IDs on the second-to-last business day before the April election. Many Government Accountability Board (GAB) voter-related applications also failed, causing outages for the local clerks throughout the state on the final day of early voting in Wisconsin.



"It is unfortunate and troubling that these critical state computer systems were down so close to the April election," said Assembly Democratic Leader **Peter Barca** (D-Kenosha). "I am deeply concerned that voters were inconvenienced or, worse yet, disenfranchised by these failures."

Wisconsin Republicans have put in place many barriers to voting in this state, including a severely restrictive voter ID law and limiting hours for early voting.

"I call for the state to make every accommodation possible to ensure that voters are able to obtain identification for voting and access the ballot box," said Barca. "Today I am joining my Democratic colleagues in demanding longer DMV hours this weekend to ensure voter registration and for Gov. Walker and others to lift the voter ID requirement for Tuesday's election, given these deeply troubling developments."

Rep. Barca also called for a full investigation and report from the Department of Administration and Department of Transportation on the outages.