



**NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD**

WASHINGTON, DC 20572

(202) 692-5000

30 NMB No. 56

June 19, 2003

TO: All Carriers and Labor Organizations

FROM: Benetta M. Mansfield, Chief of Staff

RE: Telephone Electronic Voting Comment Period

On September 30, 2002, the National Mediation Board (Board) announced the beginning of representation elections using Telephone Electronic Voting (TEV). *Telephone Electronic Voting*, 29 NMB 482 (2002). The announcement provided that the Board would accept comments regarding TEV during a 120-day period commencing September 30, 2002. The Board extended the comment period and accepted comments through February 7, 2003. *Telephone Electronic Voting Comment Period*. 30 NMB 174 (2003).

The Board received two responses to its request for comments. The Airline Industrial Relations Conference (AIR CON) submitted three comments: (1) shorten the minimum election voting period to 21 days; (2) devise an alternative personal identification number (PIN) system; and (3) add a “no-union” instruction. The Association of Flight Attendants (AFA) expressed “their unqualified support for the National Mediation Board’s implementation of the Telephone Electronic Voting (TEV) for all representation elections” and supports the Board’s proposals addressed in its January 14, 2003, memorandum. *See Telephone Electronic Voting Comment Period*, 30 NMB 174 (2003).

The Board has carefully reviewed AIR CON’s and AFA’s comments. In order to enhance the TEV process the Board is evaluating a number of features, including PINs. Therefore, the Board welcomes responses from carriers and organizations

regarding the comments provided by AIR CON in its February 7, 2003 submission. Copies of AIR CON's comments are attached.

In particular, the Board welcomes comments by carriers and organizations on the following options regarding the use of PINs:

1. The current system. The Telephone Voting Instructions (Instructions) containing a confidential, randomly generated Voter Identification Number (VIN) are mailed to the voter. To vote, the voter's identity is confirmed through the use of the VIN and the PIN, the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number.
2. Randomly generated PINs. The Instructions, containing a confidential, randomly generated VIN and a confidential, randomly generated PIN are mailed to the voter. To vote, the voter's identity is confirmed through the use of the VIN and the PIN.
3. Randomly generated PINs sent in a separate mailing. The Instructions containing a confidential, randomly generated VIN are mailed to the voter. The following day, in a separate mailing, a confidential, randomly generated PIN is mailed to the voter. To vote, the voter's identity is confirmed through the use of the VIN and the PIN.

The Board will accept any comments regarding the TEV process, including the use of PINs, during a 30-day period commencing June 19, 2003. Please submit comments to the Office of Legal Affairs in writing by mail to:

National Mediation Board  
1301 K Street, NW, Suite 250E  
Washington, DC 20005

or by facsimile to 202-692-5085; or by e-mail to [legal@nmb.gov](mailto:legal@nmb.gov). The Board will continue to monitor the TEV

process. Any changes to the TEV process will be implemented on October 1, 2003, after the Board has evaluated all written comments received from carriers and organizations.

[-Attachments-](#)