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Election Legislation 2014: Legislative Threats and Opportunities

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Introduction

Signs of bipartisanship in voting rights and election reform have started to appear in 2014, as evidenced by the President's election administration commission and the growing interest in restoring and protecting the rights of the disenfranchised.

However, the state of voting in America is far from peaceful. To get to the polls this November, voters will have to clear new hurdles from election laws and court rulings that went into effect in 2014, proving that the fight for equal and unencumbered access to the ballot remains as vital as ever.

This is especially true as so-called "voter fraud"—the long-standing pretext for restrictive voting bills—is still being argued over in courts and legislatures across the nation. While maintaining the integrity of elections is an important element of our elections system, the reality is that politicians are only focused on preventing the least common fraud: voter impersonation. A recent study by Loyola law professor Justin Leavitt found only 31 legitimate cases of voter impersonation out of one billion votes cast across the country since 2000.¹ At least one recent ruling has recognized that voter impersonation is not a substantial problem.²

Yet, in 2014, 20 states introduced bills that would have a negative impact on voters' access to the ballot, and most of these were predicated on the exceedingly rare threat of voter impersonation. Six of these states passed bills. This raises the question: what is really driving this legislation if it's not a genuine need to prevent "voter fraud"?

The general election is just weeks away, and these so-called anti-fraud measures may leave voters confused at best, and disenfranchised at worst. Recently-enacted early voting restrictions in Wisconsin have advocates concerned that underrepresented citizens might be denied the opportunity to vote, while the Supreme Court allowed Ohio's early voting cutbacks to take effect just before early voting was to start. The court-ordered enforcement of Wisconsin's 2011 strict voter ID law—issued weeks

before the midterm election—also has voters in a scramble to meet the new requirement.

Unlike voter fraud, voter discrimination is known to persist in modern-day America³ and speaks to why federal voting protection is the top issue in voting rights. Since 2000, 148 instances of racial discrimination in violation of the law have been documented, each affecting hundreds, thousands, or tens of thousands of voters.⁴ Because of these genuine concerns, advocates and even some state legislatures are pushing Congress to pass a bipartisan update to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 with the Voting Rights Amendment Act. The bill is still pending. It remains to be seen whether the disintegration of voting rights protections, plus the state-by-state effort to pass restrictive laws, will keep minority citizens from the polls, or—as some advocates argue—motivate underrepresented voters to turn out to vote.⁵

Although the move to garner bipartisan support for improving and updating America's voting system is slow to start, signs of progress are emerging in the states. Early this year, the Presidential Commission on Election Administration (PCEA) recommended several policies, including early voting and online voter registration, that states can implement with immediate benefits for both voters and election administrators. Either of these issues were taken up in 19 state legislatures, and 5 bills passed. The federal Voter Empowerment Act is an example of an omnibus proposal that takes up many of the issues suggested by the PCEA with the potential to help bring the election system into the 21st century. Further, a wider range of proposals to improve voting has cropped up in state legislatures, including same day registration and policies intended to increase youth engagement. In 2014, 33 states introduced beneficial voting bills and eight passed new laws or resolutions.

Project Vote has monitored election legislation in the 46 state legislatures in session in 2014, as well as in the U.S. Congress. This memo reviews both the threats and opportunities represented by election bills that have been introduced in the state legislatures and Congress in 2014, based on our bill monitoring project, discussions with state-based advocates, recent media coverage, and the partisan makeup of the legislatures and state election directors.

Early Voting Restrictions

In January, the bipartisan PCEA recommended that states adopt early voting to help alleviate long lines on Election Day and make voting a better experience for voters. However, three states that already have successful early voting laws on the books considered legislation to reduce early voting hours, potentially having an immediate impact on voters in the upcoming midterm elections.

Despite public objection, lawmakers pushed to limit early voting hours in Georgia, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Ohio passed SB 238 in February, theoretically ending the “Golden Week” during which people could register and vote at the same time. Secretary of State Jon Husted also issued a directive to end early voting on Sundays and evenings. Many of these drastic legislative and administrative changes continue to undergo challenges into the eleventh hour as Ohio officials act against the wishes of voters, advocates, and even Attorney General Eric Holder, who stated that the Department of Justice must act in Ohio to preserve “the most treasured of all our rights.”⁶ Back in May, several civil rights groups filed a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the new law on the grounds that it disproportionately affects black voters. In September, federal Judge Peter C. Economus blocked the new early voting restrictions on the grounds that they violated both the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and the Voting Rights Act “by creating unlawful barriers to the polls for minorities and the poor.”⁷ An appeals court agreed with the federal ruling and Golden Week was once again restored until the nation’s highest court stepped in and shut it down one day before it was to be implemented for the 2014 midterm elections.⁸ Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted also issued new early voting hours, which begin after the close of registration and include the Sunday before the election.⁹

Wisconsin governor Scott Walker approved part of SB 324/Act 146 to end weekend voting. Walker used his “partial veto” to disapprove of a separate provision that would have limited early voting to 45 hours per week. Voting rights advocates say the loss of weekend voting affects urban and young voters, and may affect Wisconsin’s standing as a high-turnout state. Election officials in larger cities are also bracing themselves for a rush of voters showing up to vote in the tight governor’s race in November.¹⁰

Georgia nearly passed a heavily amended and unpopular bill to limit early voting in city elections, but the House failed to vote on Senate amendments before the legislature adjourned.

Table 1: Bills to Restrict Early Voting

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Georgia	HB 891	Failed	This bill allows municipalities to pass a law to reduce the early voting period for municipal elections.
Ohio	SB 238	Enacted	This bill shortens the availability of early voting from the 35th day before the election to the first day after the close of voter registration, effectively ending “Golden Week,” during which citizens may register to vote and cast an early ballot.
Wisconsin	AB 54	Failed	This bill would eliminate the opportunity to vote after 5 p.m. or on weekends during the early voting period.
	SB 324/Act 146	Enacted	This bill restricts early voting to weekdays during business hours. Weekend early voting is by appointment only, except on the weekend before Election Day.

Proof of Citizenship

A politically rife issue in voting is the requirement to provide documentary proof of citizenship when registering to vote. This issue is currently being challenged in Kansas and Arizona, but could have national repercussions.

A ruling in *Kobach v. EAC* would require the Election Assistance Commission to accommodate Kansas and Arizona's requirement to provide documentary proof of citizenship, even when the applicant uses the federal form.¹¹ The ruling is currently stayed pending appeal, but Kris Kobach, the Kansas Secretary of State and a supporter of the state's citizenship requirement, has said the law would "pave the way" for other states to pass similar laws.¹² Alabama and Georgia, which have documentary proof of citizenship laws on the books, recently filed a brief supporting Kobach's position.¹³ Argument in the appeal was heard in August 2014, and the appeal remains pending.

In 2014, Utah House members filed a bill to require proof of citizenship, HB 244. The bill would have required proof of citizenship to register to vote in state and local elections, beginning in 2019. The bill did not advance in the legislature.

Table 2: Proof of Citizenship

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Utah	HB 244	Failed	This bill would require proof of citizenship to register to vote in state and local elections, beginning in 2019.

Restrictions on Same Day Registration

Restricting same day registration or similar policies came up in two states this year. Nebraska enacted LB 565, which adds restrictions to a law that allows citizens to register to vote and cast a ballot at the same time before the voter registration deadline. In November, Montana voters are set to decide whether to keep the state's same-day registration law, a ballot question that has been criticized by Secretary of State McCulloch because it "effectively denies people the right to vote." The ballot initiative, L-R 126, is the result of 2013 legislation.¹⁴

Table 3: Restrictions on Same Day Registration

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Nebraska	LB 565	Enacted	This bill establishes that a person would not be permitted to register to vote and apply for or vote a ballot on the same day during the early voting period.

Restrictions on Voter Registration Drives

Community-based voter registration drives have historically been successful in helping to enfranchise would-be voters who are less likely to register with parties or at public agencies, and who have also been targeted for excessive regulation in recent years. In 2014, at least one state passed a law that would hamper voter registration drives. Vermont's new law (SB 86) imposes a strict seven-day window in which a person or organization collecting voter registration applications must submit them to the town clerk. California's AB 1446 relates to regulations for online voter registration drives.

Other proposals that indirectly-but-substantially affect voter registration drives are proof-of-citizenship and proof-of-residency requirements, and restrictions on accessing public voter registration records.

Table 4: Restrictions on Voter Registration Drives

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
California	CA AB 1446/ Chapter 593	Enacted	This bill would apply provisions relating to paid employees of voter registration drives to those conducting electronic drives, among other rules.
Vermont	SB 86	Enacted	This bill requires voter registration drive volunteers or employees to submit voter registration applications within seven days of completion.

Transparency Limitations

State lawmakers have proposed limiting the transparency of voter registration records, undermining enforcement of a provision of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) that requires public access to registration records, except Social Security numbers, to maintain accuracy of the rolls. This information is helpful to everyone from the applicant to voter registration drive volunteers to election officials. Applicants can check online databases in certain states to verify their registration status because the information is public. When public access is prohibited or limited, as lawmakers in Florida and Utah proposed in 2014, it makes it more difficult to ensure the accuracy of voter rolls. Utah adopted SB 36, which creates restrictions for obtaining voter registration lists.

Table 5: Transparency Limitations

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Florida	HB 481/SB 1356	Failed	This bill adds a voter registration applicant or voter's date of birth to the exemptions from disclosure of information held by an agency under Florida's public records law.
Utah	SB 36	Enacted	This bill creates restrictions for obtaining voter registration lists. A county clerk may not disclose the list to anyone other than an authorized government official, unless that person provides ID and signs a statement.

Voter ID

Lawmakers in 11 states proposed restrictive voter ID bills, with serious activity in Wisconsin and Missouri. Both states had previously had controversial voter ID laws on the books, and in both cases the laws were deemed unconstitutional due to their discriminatory impact. But the story does not appear to be over.

The battle over Wisconsin's voter ID law in the legislature and the courts reached new heights in 2014. In April, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker threatened a special summer session to pass an update to the state's voter ID law, which was being challenged in several lawsuits. But the effort was temporarily put on hold when District Court Judge Lynn Adelman blocked the current voter ID law as discriminatory.¹⁵ The law's unfair burden on low-income voters was also a concern for the Justice Department, which stepped in earlier this summer to ask the appeals court to uphold Adelman's ruling.¹⁶

Legislation is no longer necessary to revive the state's controversial law, however. In two separate rulings in July, the Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld the state's photo voter ID law, and a September federal appellate ruling means voters could expect to show ID at polling places immediately. The appellate court ruling, arriving just over seven weeks before a federal election, has advocates concerned that legitimate voters may be unable to vote on Election Day.¹⁷ An emergency appeal of the ruling was filed on September 16 because the newly implemented law "imposes a radical, last-minute change to procedures for conducting an election that is already underway." At the time that the appeal was filed, 11,000 absentee ballots had been mailed out and hundreds were already cast: all such voters would be required to provide proof of identity with their already-cast ballots.¹⁸ On September 26, the full U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit allowed the earlier September appellate ruling to stand.

In 2014, Missouri's voter ID bill was reportedly dropped in exchange for the passage of a modest early voting bill, which will be before the voters in November.¹⁹ Voter ID laws or amendments to existing laws were proposed in 2014 in Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Oklahoma, Washington, and Wisconsin. No new voter ID laws have passed.

Table 6: Bills to Require Voter ID

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Colorado	HB 1128	Failed	The bill deletes the following from the list of documents used to define "identification" for purpose of the "Uniform Election Code of 1992": a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.
Iowa	SF 85	Failed	This bill requires absentee voter applicants to present proof of identification or else be offered the option to vote a provisional ballot.
Illinois	HB 4353	Pending	This bill requires that a person seeking to vote on Election Day present a government-issued photo identification card to the election judge (currently required only when voting early).
Illinois	HB 5524	Pending	This bill would require all voters to show government-issued photo ID to vote. The bill directs the secretary of state to issue Voter Identification Cards to registered voters who do not have a form of photo ID.

Table 6: Bills to Require Voter ID (continued)

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Kentucky	SB 10	Failed	This bill appears to require ID to vote. It deletes the requirement that a person's identity may be confirmed by a personal acquaintance or other identifying documents. This bill allows voters who do not show required photo ID to vote by provisional ballot after completing an affidavit later showing proper ID to the county clerk or county board of elections. Certain voters are exempt.
Maryland	HB 1094	Failed	This bill creates a voter ID requirement in Maryland.
Missouri	HB 1073/SB 511	Failed	This bill would require all voters to show government-issued photo ID to vote. It would become effective upon voter approval of a constitutional amendment that authorizes the General Assembly to enact photo voter ID requirements.
	HJR 47/SJR 31	Failed	This bill submits to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment to article VIII of the Constitution of Missouri to require photo ID to vote.
Nebraska	LB 381	Failed	This bill requires voters to present government-issued photographic ID before voting or else vote by provisional ballot. A new voter registrant who has not registered to vote in the state must submit a copy of government-issued photo ID to register to vote; such voters would not be required to show photo ID when voting early. Certain voters may receive ID at no cost.
	LB 662	Failed	This bill requires voter registrants to show a government document that verifies the name and address on the application. Voters who have been flagged by election officials for changing residence and who have failed to confirm that they have moved must show government photo ID when voting at their original polling place.
New York	AB 3788, AB 3789, SB 100	Pending	This bill requires a valid government issued photo identification card be presented when casting a ballot.
Oklahoma	SB 1284	Failed	This bill provides that an expired driver license and expired passport cannot be used for identification purposes when voting.
Washington	HB 1317	Failed	This omnibus bill makes several changes to voting procedures at polling places, including voter ID. This bill would establish a government-issued photo voter ID requirement to vote in person or by mail. Student ID and public assistance ID are accepted for voting purposes.
Wisconsin	AB 493	Failed	This bill amends the state's unimplemented voter ID law. It allows for the use of veterans ID for voting purposes. It exempts people who have a religious objection or people who are indigent and unable to obtain proof of identification without payment of a fee. Such ballots would be treated as challenged ballots and the board of canvassers must determine their validity.

Voter Purging

Voter list maintenance is an important part of ensuring only eligible citizens can vote. Legitimate voters, however, can get dropped off the rolls if the state's list maintenance procedures are not done with care and in compliance with the NVRA. In total, seven states introduced bills to maintain voter rolls, either by interstate database matching or other systemic methods of removing voters believed to be ineligible.

To provide a background, the NVRA provides that no purges can be conducted within 90 days of an election. The law also provides that voters can only be removed based on change of residence if the voter confirms the change with the election official, or if the voter fails to respond to forwardable notice and does not vote in two consecutive elections. The 90-day provision was reaffirmed by a federal appeals court in April when Florida's 2012 voter purge was ruled illegal because it violated the "90 Day Provision" of the NVRA, when the "risk of disenfranchising eligible voters is the greatest."²⁰

Interstate database matching is one of the more popular methods of list maintenance, but is impermissible if not done in compliance with the NVRA. Under the proposed bills, neighboring states would compare voter rolls to see if a registered voter in one state had moved and registered to vote in another. At its core, this is an important part of maintaining accuracy of voter rolls, but such procedures can disenfranchise eligible voters if unreliable information is used to make a match, or if officials neglect the NVRA requirement to notify voters and wait two federal general elections before removing anyone from the rolls. Ultimately, sharing information between states is not the issue: it's what states do with that information, such as unlawful purges, that make this practice problematic.

Three states have proposed bills to compare voter rolls with other states. A bill is still pending in Illinois (SB 3567). Four states introduced bills to systemically remove voters who are believed to be ineligible due to death, change of residence, or inactivity.

Table 7: Voter Purge Bills

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Alabama	HB 59/SB 422	Failed	This bill would provide for the free dissemination of the computerized statewide voter registration list to the chief election official of other states, upon request.
	HB 358, SB 275	Failed	This bill would allow each county board of registrars to determine if a voter is deceased or no longer a resident. The voter would have 30 days to confirm the status change.
California	AB 1170	Failed	This bill would require county elections officials to cancel the voter registrations of voters who fail to respond to an address verification mailing sent between the date of the mailing and the two federal elections after the date of the mailing. Address verification mailings are sent in response to change-of-address data received from the United States Postal Service or consumer credit reportage agency.
Illinois	HB 5783/SB 3567	Pending	This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to share information or data with any other state in order to maintain a state-wide centralized registration system.
Maryland	SB 15	Enacted	This bill requires the State Administrator of Elections to arrange to receive names and addresses of deceased voters from the Social Security Administration on a quarterly basis. The bill requires notice to be provided and allows two weeks to correct the information following the notice.
New Hampshire	SB 272	Failed	This bill authorizes the secretary of state to provide notice of a voter registration to supervisors of the checklist in another state.
New York	AB 2588, SB 1688	Pending	This bill requires the state board of elections to review the Social Security Administration Death Master File on an annual basis. Local boards of elections would immediately remove the names of all deceased voters from the voter roll. If a person claims that they were erroneously removed, that person may vote by "affidavit ballot."
Oklahoma	HB 2593	Failed	This bill requires the Dept. of Health to provide the State Election Board with a certified list of deceased residents on a monthly basis. Election officials must use the list to verify and remove dead voters from the voter rolls.

Early Voting

Early voting is a leading election reform policy that was recommended by the PCEA and has been promoted to help reduce long lines on Election Day and make voting easier. Seven states (MA, MO, NJ, NY, MS, SC, VA) and the United States Congress introduced bills to enact or enable early voting. Two became law: Massachusetts' omnibus HB 3788 establishes early voting beginning on the 11th business day before an election, among several other provisions. Missouri's weak early voting constitutional amendment, HJR 90, passed the legislature and will be on November's ballot.

In Missouri, the legislature-approved initiative would amend the state constitution to allow voters to vote by mail or in person, during business hours and excluding weekends, for a six-day period ending the Wednesday before Election Day. The ballot initiative is embroiled in partisan politics.²¹ First, it has been criticized by state Democrats as being designed to distract from a more expansive early voting initiative petition, which ultimately failed to gather enough signatures to be on the November ballot.²² Second, if approved by voters, the ballot initiative would only take effect if funded by the legislature, a point that is not included in the ballot's wording, according to a recent lawsuit.²³

Federal bills, including the FAST Act (S. 85) and the LINE Act (S. 2017) were introduced specifically to help reduce long lines on Election Day by providing early voting opportunities.

Four states (AZ, CA, LA, UT) introduced bills to expand existing early voting laws to include best practices like extended hours, weekend voting, and voter education.

Table 8: Bills to Implement or Expand Early Voting

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Arizona	HB 2064	Failed	This bill extends early voting hours.
California	AB 2177	Failed	This bill would require election officials to allow voters to vote at an early voting location on at least one Saturday on or after the election official delivers ballots to absentee voters. Early voting under this bill is defined as casting a mail ballot in person.
	SB 637	Failed	This bill would require the secretary of state to provide guidance to local elections officials in promoting and expanding the practice of early voting. The bill would require elections to provide early voting on at least one Saturday on or after the date the official first delivers mail ballots for a statewide election.
Louisiana	HB 203	Failed	This bill provides early voting on Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Massachusetts	HB 4072	Enacted	This bill relates to early voting and voter registration. Qualified voters may apply for an early voting ballot and will be permitted to vote from the 11th business day before Election Day until the close of business on the business day before the election. This bill would permit citizens who are 16 or 17 years of age to preregister to vote. This bill requires the secretary of state to create and maintain an online portal through which a person may register to vote and verify voter registration status.
Missouri	HB 1287, HB 1288	Failed	This bill would establish early voting in Missouri. The "advance voting" period would begin the third Wednesday before an election and end on the Wednesday before Election Day.
	HB 1449	Failed	This bill would establish a central voting location in which citizens may vote early. Early voting would begin the sixth Tuesday before an election and end on the Monday before Election Day.
	HB 2271	Failed	This bill would require each election authority to establish one advance voting center in each county for state and federal elections. Advance voting would begin on the third Saturday before Election Day and end on the Tuesday preceding the election, excluding Sundays.
	SB 721, SB 749	Failed	This act creates a system to allow voters to cast advance ballots at central voting locations and satellite sites. The advance-voting period will begin the third Wednesday before Election Day.
	HJR 90	Passed	This bill proposes a constitutional amendment specifying a six-day early voting period.
Mississippi	HB 333, HB 1167	Failed	This bill establishes early voting for general elections.

Table 8: Bills to Implement or Expand Early Voting (continued)

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
New Jersey	A 2230/S 536	Pending	This bill establishes in-person early voting for general elections. The early voting ballot would be the same ballot as NJ's current mail-in ballot.
New York	AB 689	Pending	This bill provides early voting in the state of New York. Early voting would begin 14 days before a general election and end seven days before Election Day.
	AB 2672	Pending	This bill authorizes early voting at primary and general elections to be conducted at least seven days prior to the election upon application by the voter and provides that permanent polling places shall be established by the county board of elections for early voting.
	AB 3567/SB 424	Pending	This bill provides to any person early voting for a candidate for public office in a general election to take place no sooner than 20 days and no later than five days prior to Election Day.
	AB 3644	Pending	This bill provides for early voting in primary and general elections during the 2 week period prior to the election.
	AB 4526	Pending	This bill provides for early voting at elections.
	AB 5066	Pending	This bill provides for early voting in presidential elections.
South Carolina	SB 4	Failed	This bill establishes early voting in South Carolina. The early voting period would begin 11 days before the election and would end three days before Election Day, excluding Sundays.
Utah	SB 135	Failed	This bill provides that a person who registers to vote 15 or more days before Election Day may participate in early voting. A person who registers to vote online seven or more days before Election Day may vote on Election Day.
Virginia	HB 75	Failed	This bill would allow any registered voter to vote absentee in person in any election in which the person is qualified to vote without providing a reason. Current law requires voters to provide a reason.
	HB 692	Failed	This bill allows any registered voter to vote absentee in-person without providing an excuse.
	HB 800	Failed	This bill allows qualified voters to vote absentee in person without providing an excuse for not being able to vote in person on Election Day.
	SB 3	Failed	This bill would allow any registered voter to vote absentee in person without excuse. The bill retains the statutory list of specific reasons allowing a voter to cast an absentee ballot by mail.

Restoration of Voting Rights for Ex-Felons

Restoration of voting rights after a criminal conviction is an issue that has gained momentum this year. Attorney General Eric Holder asserted early in 2014 that it's time to reconsider laws that disenfranchise people who are no longer under state or federal supervision, while members of Congress from both parties introduced bills that focus on the restoration of voting rights. A dozen states also proposed bills to help restore the voting rights of people with criminal histories.

The Democracy Restoration Act (H.R. 4459/S. 2235), sponsored by Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Rep. John Conyers (D-MI), would create a minimum federal standard for voting rights restoration, permitting people who have been released from custody to vote in federal elections. Republican Senator Rand Paul's Civil Rights Voting Restoration Act of 2014 (S. 2550) was introduced in June. The bills and their sponsors were featured at a congressional Bipartisan Panel on Restoring Voting Rights in July. The panel was organized by the ACLU and Brennan Center for Justice and featured various voting rights advocates.²⁴

In the states, a Kentucky bill to restore voting rights of former offenders advanced in the legislature. State lawmakers, however, could not reach a compromise to pass the bill before the legislature adjourned.²⁵ Determined to make voting available to “non-violent felons who have paid their debt to society,” Louisville Metro Council members passed a resolution to urge state lawmakers to pass a Constitutional amendment for voter approval to automatically restore voting rights of people convicted of a felony.²⁶ A 2015 bill to restore voting rights of certain convicted felons has been pre-filed by House Republican Floor Leader Jeff Hover.²⁷

Wyoming lawmakers continued to press the issue through the summer, though there appears to be no progress to date.²⁸ In Virginia, a number of voting rights restoration bills failed, but Governor Terry McAuliffe took matters into his own hands. The governor opted to make voting restoration more available to offenders, an executive action that could be reversed by future governors. Bills are still pending in New Jersey and New York.

Table 9: Bills to Restore Voting Rights to Ex-Felons

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
United States	HR 3688	Pending	The "Ex-Offender Voter Registration Act of 2013" would amend title 18, United States Code, to direct the Bureau of Prisons to provide voter registration cards to Federal prisoners upon their release from prison.
	S. 2550	Pending	Civil Rights Voting Restoration Act of 2014. This bill would secure the Federal voting rights of non-violent offenders when released from incarceration and completion of one year of probation. Offenders who have less than one year of probation to complete would have their rights restored on the date that probation ends.
	HR 4459/S 2235	Pending	The Democracy Restoration Act would restore voting rights in federal elections to people who have been released from incarceration.
Florida	HJR 1339/SJR 1612	Failed	The bill would amend the Florida constitution to restore eligibility to vote and to run for office to people convicted of most felonies upon completion of sentence.
Georgia	SR 59	Failed	This resolution would urge the State of Board of Pardons and Paroles to issue a Certificate of Restoration of Voting Rights upon the completion of a criminal sentence.
Iowa	SF 2203	Failed	This bill requires that citizenship rights related to voting and qualification for public office must be restored for any individual who has been discharged from criminal sentence, including any accompanying term of probation, parole, or supervised release.
Kentucky	HB 70	Failed	This bill amends the state constitution to allow people convicted of a felony the right to vote five years after completion of sentence, including probation or parole. The initiative will go to the voters for ratification or rejection.
	HB 22	Prefiled	This bill proposes an amendment to the constitution to restore voting rights of certain convicted felons after completion of sentence, plus a five-year waiting period. The question would be submitted to voters.
Louisiana	HB 283	Failed	This bill allows a person who is on probation or parole to register and to vote.
	HB 737	Failed	This bill requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Dept. of State to coordinate in identifying voting eligible citizens who had completed an order of imprisonment. Such citizens would be sent a notice of the requirements and procedures for reinstating voter registration.
	HB 970	Failed	This bill relates to voting by people who are incarcerated.
Minnesota	HF 2875	Failed	This bill clarifies that a citizen retains their civil right to vote except while incarcerated.

Table 9: Bills to Restore Voting Rights to Ex-Felons (continued)

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Minnesota	SF 107/HF 2984	Failed	This bill allows for the restoration of civil rights of a person convicted of a felony as soon as he or she is released from incarceration. If a person is convicted of a felony but is not incarcerated for the felony conviction, the individual's rights are not removed.
New Jersey	A 426	Pending	This bill requires chief parole officers and the State Parole Board to provide voter registration forms, declination forms, registration assistance, and acceptance of completed registration forms to parolees who appear at their offices.
	A 2982	Pending	This bill allows citizens on parole and probation to vote and provides voter registration assistance to people on probation or parole.
	S 1428	Pending	This bill requires each correctional facility to provide each inmate with a voter information packet upon the inmate's release. The bill also requires each correctional facility employee and inmate to sign a copy of the form.
New York	AB 2301	Pending	This bill directs the Department of Corrections to provide voter registration applications to citizens upon the discharge from a correctional facility.
	SB 2633	Pending	This bill facilitates absentee voting in local correctional facilities and designates the division of probation and correctional alternatives, the department of corrections and community supervision, and the division of parole as assisting agencies for voter registration purposes.
	SB 5526	Pending	This bill would require that voting rights information be provided to people convicted of felonies at the time of sentencing and discharge. The Division of Parole must provide the State Board of Elections with a list of voting-eligible felons who had recently been released.
Virginia	HB 7, HB 556	Failed	This bill would establish automatic restoration of rights for persons with prior felony convictions, other than violent felonies, certain drug felonies, and certain election fraud convictions.
	HJ 21, HJ 25, HJ 48, HJ 70, HJ 78, HJ 97, HJ 107	Failed	These bills authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for the restoration of civil rights for people convicted of nonviolent felonies who have completed service of their sentences, including any period or condition of parole, probation, or suspension of sentence.
Wisconsin	AB 886	Failed	This bill provides that a person loses his or her right to vote based on a disqualifying offense only while he or she is incarcerated for that offense.
Wyoming	HB 126	Failed	This bill would provide for the restoration of voting rights for people convicted of felonies.

Online Voter Registration

Nearly half of the states in America offer—or soon will offer—online voter registration, signaling the policy’s fast-growing popularity in election administration. Eleven more states proposed online voter registration policies in 2014, likely emboldened by the recent outpouring of bipartisan support (including PCEA and Pew Charitable Trust endorsements) that cite the policy’s potential to improve voters’ experience and make elections more cost efficient. In 2014, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Nebraska enacted online voter registration while Florida—where a bill failed—is expected to revisit the issue in 2015.

The Voter Registration Modernization Act was introduced by U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in mid-September to set national standards for online voter registration.²⁹ The federal bill would require all states to provide the opportunity to register to vote electronically, and would expand enrollment access to more eligible citizens in states with existing online systems.³⁰

Table 10: Online Voter Registration Bills

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Florida	HB 667	Failed	This bill creates an online voter registration system that allows Florida citizens to register to vote or update registration information through a state-operated website.
	SB 784	Failed	This bill requires the Department of State to develop an online voter registration system for applicants to submit both first-time voter registration applications and updates to existing voter registration records.
Georgia	HB 942	Failed	This bill would provide for online voter registration,.
Iowa	HF 2243, SSB 3130	Failed	This bill permits online voter registration from the state commissioner of elections' web site.
Idaho	HB 488	Failed	This bill requires the secretary of state to maintain an electronic system for voter registration online for any citizen who has a current, valid driver's license or Idaho identification card.
Minnesota	HF 2096	Enacted	This bill establishes a policy to allow citizens to register to vote online. Registrations are accepted if received in person, by mail, or online on the 21st day preceding any election.
Missouri	HB 1739	Failed	This bill authorizes an election authority to accept voter registration applications with electronic signatures under certain conditions.
Nebraska	LB 661	Enacted	This bill requires the secretary of state and the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop and implement a registration application process to allow citizens to register to vote or update voter registration records electronically through the secretary's Web site.
New Jersey	A 571	Pending	This bill establishes an online voter registration system.
	S 2328	Pending	This bill requires the Secretary of State to create an online voter registration system. Registrants that cannot provide identification information, such as a driver's license number or Social Security number, must be allowed to complete the form electronically, print it out, and deliver it by mail or in person.
New York	AB 149/SB 1991	Pending	This bill requires the board of elections to accept voter registrations electronically through its Website.
Rhode Island	H 7601/S 2676	Failed	This bill requires the state board of elections to establish and maintain a system for online voter registration.
Tennessee	SB 2227	Failed	This bill requires state election commission to provide online voter registration through the secretary of state's web site.

Same Day Registration

Same day registration made significant headway in 2014. At least 12 states proposed bills to permit citizens to register and vote on Election Day or during an early voting period, and these bills advanced in four states, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, and Utah. Of the four, however, only Hawaii's bill was enacted, joining the 11 states and the District of Columbia that have same day registration laws on the books, beginning 2018.

“Our system of government depends on individuals exercising their right to vote, one of our most cherished duties as citizens,” said Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie upon signing the bill. “I applaud members of the Legislature for advancing HB2590 in the interest of removing barriers to voting, and I support the measure as long as it can be achieved from a sound technical standpoint.”³¹

The Delaware House adopted SDR bill HB 105 this spring and, had it progressed further, may have had the support of Governor Jack Markell, who has stated that he condones it as an opportunity to bring “more people in[to] the political process.”³² The bill, however, was not picked up in the Senate and died upon adjournment. Illinois' omnibus voting bill, HB 105/ Public Act 98-0691, which was enacted, provides same day registration as a pilot project for the 2014 midterm elections. Utah also passed a law to establish a Same Day Registration pilot project in the state (HB 156).

Table 11: Same Day Registration Bills

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Alabama	SB 347	Failed	This bill would allow a person to register to vote on any day a board of registrars maintains office hours, including the day of any election.
Alaska	HB 86	Failed	This bill permits a voter to register up to or on the day of an election.
Arizona	HB 2065	Failed	This bill would allow qualified citizens to register to vote at the polls on Election Day. Such individuals would be allowed to vote by provisional ballot only.
	SB 1423	Failed	This bill allows voters to register to vote up to and on Election Day. Any voter who registers during these times may vote only by provisional ballot. The bill exempts partisan primary elections from these rules.
Delaware	HB 105	Failed	This bill provides for Election Day registration with submission of valid government issued identification or other generally accepted proof of identification.
Hawaii	HB 2590/Act 166	Enacted	This bill allows voter registration at absentee polling places beginning in 2016 and late voter registration, including on Election Day, beginning in 2018.
Illinois	HB 105/Public Act 98-069	Enacted	This omnibus election bill requires early voting to be conducted in a high-traffic location on the campus of a public university, in addition to locations required by law. The bill would also establish same day registration during the 2014 general election.
Mississippi	SB 2010	Failed	This bill would permit eligible citizens to register to vote on Election Day.
New Jersey	AB 1702	Failed	This bill establishes same-day registration. It requires people registering on Election Day to present a photo or non-photo ID.
New Mexico	SB 72	Pending	This bill allows for same-day registration during the early voting period. The registrant may vote by provisional ballot if the early voting site does not have real-time access to the statewide electronic voter file.
New York	AB 172, AB 2099/SB 609, SB 1549	Pending	This bill provides that qualified people who have never previously registered to vote may register on any day, including Election Day.
Utah	HB 156	Enacted	This bill amends provisions of the Election Code by establishing a pilot project to test the advisability of implementing election day voter registration in Utah.
Washington	SB 5268	Failed	This bill allows voters to register to vote up to 5:00 p.m. on Election Day or submit online voter registration applications no later than eight days before Election Day.

Voter ID Expansion

In the last two years, lawmakers have proposed to repeal or reduce the impact of laws that require additional identifying documents to register to vote and cast a ballot. Unfortunately, both the bitterly divided Congress and lawsuits in the states appear to prevent these proposals from progressing.

Arizona and Kansas are home to some of the most restrictive voter registration laws, requiring citizens to provide documentary proof of citizenship to register to vote. The states are currently challenging the decision of the EAC, the agency responsible for the federal form, not to add those states' documentary proof of citizenship requirements to the form's state-specific instruction. If that challenge is successful, documentary proof can be required with the federal form as the states currently require it with the state form.

Bills to expand the list of acceptable voter IDs in order to accommodate more citizens were proposed on both the state and federal levels. The Equal Access to Support Youth Voting "EASY" Act (H.R. 5144), for example, would ensure that students who live in states with strict photo ID requirements would be allowed to vote after showing their student ID. With 18 percent of young Americans between ages 18 and 24 lacking sufficient ID to vote, such a proposal may prove helpful.³³ The bill, however, does not appear to have the attention of Congress and likely will not gain traction.³⁴

Table 12: Voter ID Expansion

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
United States	HR 5144	Pending	The Equal Access to Support Youth “EASY” Act would ensure that students who live in states with strict photo ID requirements would be allowed to vote after showing their student ID.
Arizona	HB 2067	Failed	This bill provides that registrars may not require documentation as a condition to register to vote if it is not required by the National Voter Registration Act and ensures citizens who submit legitimate federal forms will be registered to vote.
	SB 1424, SB 1426	Failed	This bill would abolish Arizona's proof-of-citizenship requirement for persons registering to vote and explicitly declare that no identification requirement more stringent than that contained in the National Voter Registration Act may be imposed on registrants.
	SB 1426	Failed	This bill abolishes proof of citizenship and voter ID requirements.
	SB 1433	Failed	This bill allows voters to present a university, college, or community college student ID to satisfy the voter ID requirement.
Kansas	HB 2428	Failed	This bill would expand the options for satisfying the proof-of-citizenship requirement to register to vote, allowing people to affirm citizenship in lieu of providing documentary proof.
New Hampshire	SB 183	Failed	This bill allows voters to use unauthorized photo voter ID as long as it is determined to be legitimate by the supervisors of the checklist. If challenged, the voter must complete a challenged voter affidavit as if no ID was presented.
Tennessee	SB 1082	Failed	This bill allows any photo identification issued by a public institution of higher learning to be used as evidence of identification for voting purposes.

Voting Rights

In the year since the United States Supreme Court weakened voter discrimination protections under the Voting Rights Act of 1965, members of Congress have been working to amend and update the VRA to address the high court's ruling. Likewise, states have proposed resolutions to urge Congress to do so, as well as proposed bills to establish their own set of voting rights protections.

The Voting Rights Amendment Act (H.R. 3899/S. 1945) was introduced to modernize and extend voting protections of the VRA, as well as address the Supreme Court's gutting of pre-clearance. Lawmakers in four states (AK, CO, FL, NJ) proposed initiatives to urge Congress to update the VRA. Colorado's HJR 1009 was adopted in May.

Lawmakers in California, Florida, and Illinois proposed bills and resolutions to adopt their own additional voting rights protections. The Illinois legislature adopted a constitutional amendment that will go to voters in November. The proposed ballot initiative would prevent people from being denied the right to vote based on race, ethnicity, language, sex, sexual orientation, or income.

Table 13: Voting Rights

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
United States	HR 3899/ S 1945	Pending	To amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to revise the criteria for determining which States and political subdivisions are subject to section 4 of the Act, and for other purposes.
Alaska	SJR 29	Failed	This bill urges the President of the United States and the United States Congress to amend and update the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.
California	AB 280	Failed	This bill would establish a state preclearance system. Under this system, a political subdivision that enacts or seeks to administer a voting-related law or regulation must submit the proposal to the secretary of state. The secretary would only approve the proposal if specific conditions are met.
Colorado	HJR 1009	Adopted	This bill urges and requests members of Congress to update the formula in Section 4 of the federal "Voting Rights Act of 1965" to ensure Section 5 of the act can be restored.
Florida	HM 477/SM 464	Failed	This bill urges Congress to revise preclearance coverage formula set forth in Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
	HM 1283	Failed	This bill urges Congress to propose to states an amendment to the U.S. Constitution providing that it is a fundamental right of citizens of age to vote in all elections for public office held in the jurisdiction of residence.
	HB 1079/SB 1246	Failed	This would enact the Florida Voting Rights Act. Among other things, the bill would declare that the policy of the state is to protect electors against discrimination based on gender, race, age, income level, sexual orientation, language, religion, or disability, etc.
	SB 1132	Failed	The bill would establish an explicit, fundamental right to vote in state statute.
Illinois	HJRCA 52	Adopted	This bill provides that no person would be denied the right to register to vote or to cast a ballot in an election based on race, color, ethnicity, status as a member of a language minority, sex, sexual orientation, or income.
New Jersey	AR 39, AR 54/ SR 35	Pending	This bill urges United States Supreme Court to uphold provisions of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Youth Voter Engagement

Lawmakers in 2014 focused on engaging young people in the democratic process before they reach voting age, allowing high school students to preregister to vote or serve as poll workers.

Preregistration policies gained some traction in 2014, with nine states introducing bills to permit 16- and 17-year-old citizens to enroll for automatic voter registration upon reaching voting age. In Louisiana, the legislature passed HB 501, which will automatically register 16-year-olds when they apply for driver's licenses, unless the applicant declines. California adopted a bill to extend the state's existing policy of 17-year-old preregistration to 16-year-olds. The policy will be implemented once VoteCal, California's statewide voter registration database, is in effect.³⁵

Poll worker programs for high school students were proposed in California and Utah, the latter adopting a law to allow 16- and 17-year-olds to serve as poll workers.

Campus voter registration is another way states proposed to reach students at public high schools and universities. Four states proposed such laws, but none of the bills advanced in 2014.

Table 14: Youth Voter Engagement

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Arizona	SB 1186	Failed	This bill allows 16 and 17 year olds to pre-register to vote.
California	SB 113	Enacted	This bill would extend California's pre-registration policy to citizens at least 16 years of age. Currently, 17-year-old citizens can pre-register to vote and would be automatically eligible to vote upon turning 18.
	AB 1817/ Chapter 131	Enacted	This bill changes "high school voter weeks" so that they are called "high school voter education weeks" and it clarifies that voter registration can be done "in areas designated by the administrator of the high school, or his or her designee." An earlier version of this bill would authorize students to become a deputy registrar on their high school campuses.
	AB 1817	Enacted	This bill would permit the governing board of a school district to authorize high school students who are at least 16 years of age to become a deputy registrar of voters to help register students on his or her high school campus.
	SB 1105	Failed	This bill would require the standardized student financial aid application, if the application is submitted online, to permit the applicant to apply to register to vote online by submitting an affidavit of registration electronically on the secretary of state's website.
Hawaii	HB 1797	Failed	This bill requires the Department of Education to provide seniors at each public high school with voter registration information prior to graduation. The bill requires the Department of Human Services to provide young adults in the Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care Program with information on voter registration. The bill authorizes the Department of Education and Department of Human Services to assist with voter registration.

Table 14: Youth Voter Engagement (continued)

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
Hawaii	HCR 43, SCR 41	Failed	This House Concurrent Resolution would request the Dept. of Education and Dept. of Human Services to assist with increasing voter registration among young citizens. Voter registration information would be provided for seniors at every public high school; young adults who are in foster care; and any young adult who requests such information.
	SB 2203	Failed	This bill requires the Dept. of Education to provide seniors at every public school with voter registration information prior to graduation.
Louisiana	HB 501	Enacted	This bill allows citizens who are at least 16 years of age to preregister to vote when applying for a drivers' license. Driver's license applications made by 16-year-olds would serve as a voter registration application, unless the applicant specifically declines or does not sign the voter registration application. No voter may cast a ballot until the voter reaches 18.
Massachusetts	HB 3788	Enacted	This omnibus bill relates to early voting and voter registration. Qualified voters may apply for an early voting ballot and will be permitted to vote from the 11th business day before Election Day until the close of business on the business day before the election. This bill would permit citizens who are 16 or 17 years of age to preregister to vote. This bill requires the secretary of state to create and maintain an online portal through which a person may register to vote and verify voter registration status.
Mississippi	SB 2648	Failed	This bill would provide for voter registration for citizens who are 16 and older.
Nebraska	LB 127	Failed	This bill would permit citizens who are at least 16 years of age to preregister to vote. A preregistration applicant would receive a "confirmation of registration" when he or she turns 18 to verify the voter's qualifications and residence.
New York	AB 2042	Pending	This bill allows citizens who are at least 16 years of age to preregister to vote. The bill would require the local boards of education to adopt policies to promote student voter registration and preregistration.
	AB 6852	Pending	This bill provides for high school students to receive applications to enroll and vote by mail in their schools and for the transmission of applications by the school.
Oregon	SB 1581	Failed	This bill directs public universities and community colleges to increase voter registration access and information.
Utah	HB 282	Enacted	This bill allows an individual who is 16 or 17 years of age to serve as a poll worker in an election and prohibits a candidate's family member from serving as a poll worker.
Virginia	HB 694	Carryover	This bill would allow citizens who are at least 16 years of age to preregister to vote. The bill specifies that this early registration does not permit such a person to vote in any election occurring prior to his eighteenth birthday, except for those situations currently set out.
Washington	HB 1279	Failed	This bill establishes the Young Voter Registration Equality Act. The bill allows eligible citizens who are at least sixteen years of age to preregister to vote.

Omnibus Legislation

The federal Voter Empowerment Act (S. 123/H.R. 12) is an example of a sweeping package of registration, voting, and election administration reforms that would transform our outmoded, confusing, and ineffective systems into a model fit for the 21st century. Rep. John Lewis' omnibus bill would address many of the issues outlined in the PCEA report, including the requirement for states to provide early voting opportunities and online voter registration through state agencies.

At least two states adopted omnibus legislation in 2014. Massachusetts' HB 3788 includes online voter registration and early voting and Illinois omnibus HB 105 includes an SDR pilot project and the requirement to designate high-traffic areas on college campuses as early voting sites.³⁶

Table 15: Omnibus Legislation

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
United States	S. 123/H.R. 12	Pending	This omnibus bill would establish standards for early voting, online registration, and other voter registration and election administration reforms.
Illinois	HB 105/House Public Act 98-0691	Enacted	This omnibus election bill would require early voting to be conducted in a high-traffic location on the campus of a public university, in addition to locations required by law. This bill establishes that each election authority in a county with a population of over 100,000 but under 250,000 people should establish at least one early voting polling place. The bill would also establish same day registration during the 2014 general election.
Massachusetts	HB 3788	Enacted	This omnibus bill would establish online voter registration and early voting beginning on the 11th business day before an election and ending on the second business day, and would allow citizens who are at least 16 years of age to preregister to vote, among other provisions.

Other Methods of Voter Registration

There are other methods of voter registration that utilize existing systems to register voters while also maintaining voter rolls by using public records. These policies, like same day registration, help address the needs of mobile voters who frequently change their address and thus would be required to update their registration records, or even re-register, in many states.

Electronic voter registration at government agencies is a way to automatically register voters wishing to register when they interact with public agencies, such as motor vehicles offices, public assistance agencies, and offices serving disabled citizens, all of which are required by the NVRA to offer voter registration. By the nature of the policy, states are able to update voter rolls with the current name and address of each registered voter. Although the policy was proposed in seven states (FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, NY, WY), it failed to gain traction in 2014.

Statewide permanent, portable voter registration allows registered voters who have moved within a state to update their registration records and vote a regular ballot at their new polling place. Georgia and Nebraska introduced permanent portable voter registration bills in 2014, but the bills did not pass.

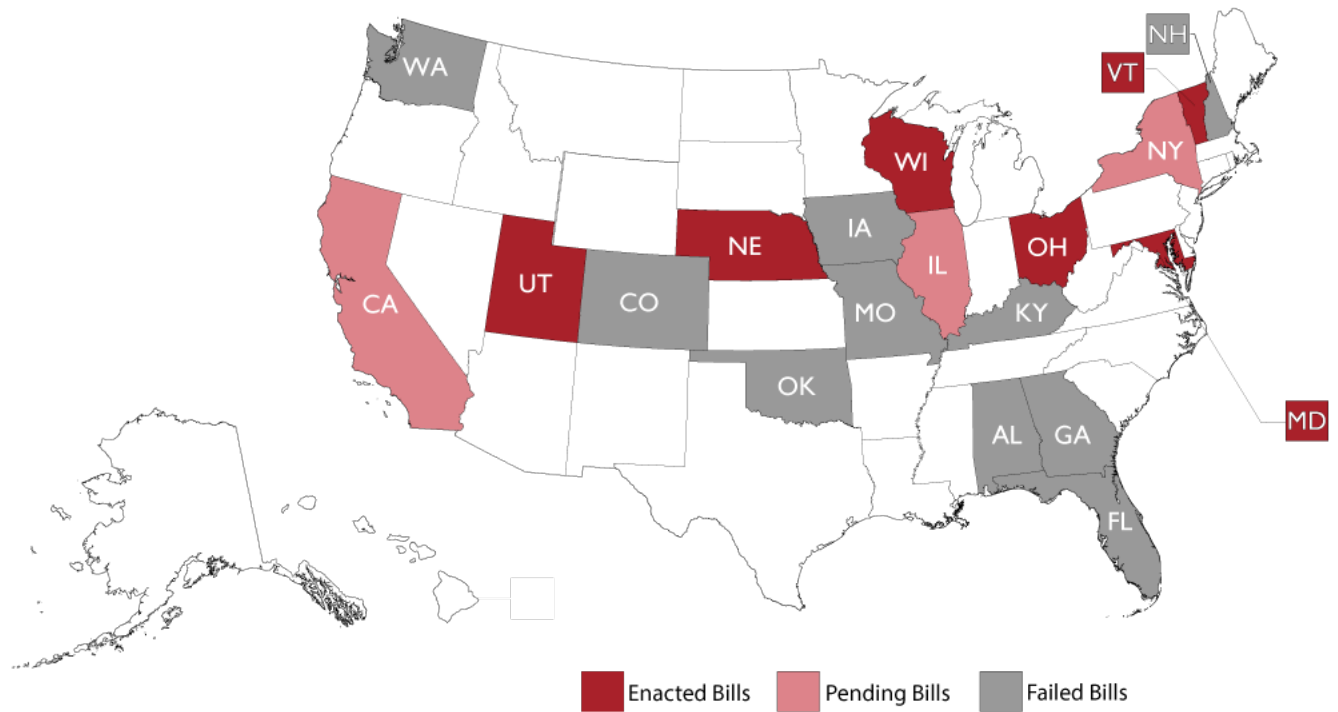
Table 16: Other Methods of Voter Registration

Legislature	Bill	Status	Summary
United States	S 2145	Pending	This bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, and for other purposes.
Florida	HB 179	Failed	This bill authorizes the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to automatically register to vote or update the voter registration record of eligible individuals. An applicant may revoke consent to automatically register to vote or update voter registration record.
	SB 150	Failed	This bill would require the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to automatically register to vote or update voter registration records of eligible individuals. Applicants may decline voter registration options.
Georgia	SB 315	Failed	This bill requires all state agencies to provide the secretary of state the name, age, address, citizenship data, and signature for each person who is eligible to vote. The secretary would register qualified people to vote and notify them of their registration status, with information on how to cancel such registration.
	HB 945	Failed	This bill allows a voter who has moved within the state, but has not updated his or her registration status to vote a regular ballot at the voter's new polling place.
Hawaii	HB 2001	Failed	This bill requires counties to automatically register as voters all qualified citizens at the time they are issued a civil identification card or driver's license.
	SB 2380	Failed	Beginning on January 1, 2016, this bill requires an individual to "opt-out" of registering to vote when applying for a driver's license and a civil identification card.
Nebraska	LB 746	Failed	This bill allows registered voters who have moved to another county and have not updated their voter registration record to vote a provisional ballot in their new precinct after providing proof of residence.
New York	SB 1990	Pending	This bill requires the board of elections to transfer the voter registration of a voter to wherever they move in the state.
	AB 174/SB 586	Pending	This bill makes the following participating agencies for purposes of agency assisted voter registration: public libraries, local housing authorities, and public high schools.
Wisconsin	AB 869	Failed	This bill makes it the responsibility of the Government Accountability Board to use all feasible means to facilitate the registration of all eligible voters. The bill requires GAB to maintain the confidentiality of any information that GAB obtains under the agreement and allows a driver's license or identification card applicant to opt out of DOT's transfer of this information to GAB.

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APPENDIX I: Maps of Election Legislation by State, 2014

Restrictive Election Legislation, 2014



Beneficial Election Legislation, 2014

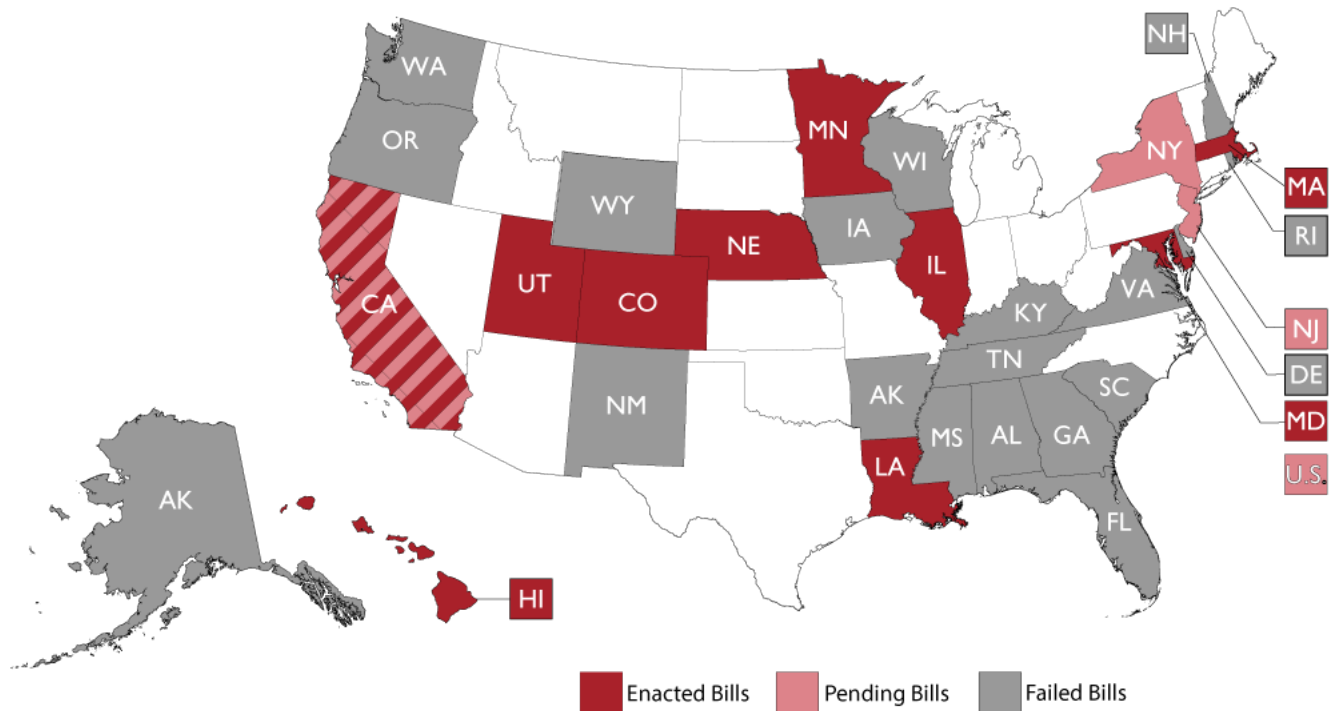


Table 10: Restrictive Election Legislation by State, 2014

Legislature	Bill	Subject	Status	See Page...
Alabama	HB 59/SB 422	Voter Purges	Failed	9
	HB 358, SB 275	Voter Purges	Failed	9
California	AB 1170	Voter Purges	Failed	9
	AB 1446	Restrictions on Voter Registration Drives	Enacted	5
Colorado	HB 1128	Voter ID	Failed	6
Florida	HB 481/SB 1356	Transparency Limitations	Failed	5
Georgia	HB 891	Early Voting Restrictions	Failed	3
Iowa	SF 85	Voter ID	Failed	6
Illinois	HB 4353	Voter ID	Pending	6
	HB 5524	Voter ID	Pending	6
	HB 5783/SB 3567	Voter Purges	Pending	9
Kentucky	SB 10	Voter ID	Failed	7
Maryland	HB 1094	Voter ID	Failed	7
	SB 15	Voter Purges	Enacted	9
Missouri	HB 1073/SB 511	Voter ID	Failed	7
	HJR 47/SJR 31	Voter ID	Failed	7
Nebraska	LB 381	Voter ID	Failed	7
	LB 565	Restrictions on Same Day Registration	Enacted	4
	LB 662	Voter ID	Failed	7
New Hampshire	SB 272	Voter Purges	Failed	9
New York	AB 2588, SB 1688	Voter Purges	Pending	9
	AB 3788, AB 3789, SB 100	Voter ID	Pending	7
Ohio	SB 238	Early Voting Restrictions	Enacted	3
Oklahoma	HB 2593	Voter Purges	Failed	9
	SB 1284	Voter ID	Failed	7
Utah	HB 244	Proof of Citizenship	Failed	4
	SB 36	Transparency Limitations	Enacted	5
Vermont	SB 86	Restrictions on Voter Registration Drives	Enacted	5
Washington	HB 1317	Voter ID	Failed	7
Wisconsin	AB 54	Early Voting Restrictions	Failed	3
	SB 324/Act 146	Early Voting Restrictions	Enacted	3
	AB 493	Voter ID	Failed	7

Table 11: Beneficial Election Legislation by State, 2014

Legislature	Bill	Subject	Status	See Page...
United States	HR 3688	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	14
	HR 4459/S 2235	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	14
	HR 3899/S 1945	Voting Rights	Pending	23
	S 2145	Other Voter Registration	Pending	28
	S 123, HR 12	Online Voter Registration	Pending	17
Alabama	SB 347	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
Alaska	SJR 29	Voting Rights	Failed	23
	HB 86	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
Arizona	HB 2065	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
	SB 1423	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
	HB 2064	Early Voting	Failed	11
	HB 2067	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
	SB 1424, SB 1426	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
	SB 1426	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
	SB 1433	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
	SB 1186	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	24
California	SB 113	Youth Voter Engagement	Enacted	24
	AB 1817/Chapter 131	Youth Voter Engagement	Enacted	24
	AB 1817	Youth Voter Engagement	Enacted	24
	SB 1105	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	24
	AB 2177	Early Voting	Failed	11
	SB 637	Early Voting	Failed	11
	AB 280	Voting Rights	Failed	23
Colorado	HJR 1009	Voting Rights	Adopted	23
Delaware	HB 105	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
Florida	HB 179	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
	SB 150	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
	HJR 1339/SJR 1612	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HB 667	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
	SB 784	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17

Table 11: Beneficial Election Legislation by State, 2014 (continued)

Legislature	Bill	Subject	Status	See Page...
Florida	HM 477/SM 464	Voting Rights	Failed	23
	HM 1283	Voting Rights	Failed	23
	HB 1079/SB 1246	Voting Rights	Failed	23
	SB 1132	Voting Rights	Failed	23
Georgia	SR 59	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HB 942	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
	SB 315	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
	HB 945	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
Hawaii	HB 2590/Act 166	Same Day Registration	Enacted	19
	HB 1797	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	24
	HCR 43, SCR 41	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	25
	SB 2203	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	25
	HB 2001	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
	SB 2380	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
Illinois	HB 105/Public Act 98-0691	Same Day Registration	Enacted	19, 26
	HJRCA 52	Voting Rights	Adopted	23
Iowa	SF 2203	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HF 2243, SSB 3130	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
Idaho	HB 488	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
Kansas	HB 2428	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
Kentucky	HB 70	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HB 22	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Prefiled	14
Louisiana	HB 203	Early Voting	Failed	11
	HB 283	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HB 737	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HB 970	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	HB 501	Youth Voter Engagement	Enacted	25
Massachusetts	HB 3788	Omnibus	Enacted	11, 25

APPENDIX III: Beneficial Election Legislation by State, 2014

Table 11: Beneficial Election Legislation by State, 2014 (continued)

Legislature	Bill	Subject	Status	See Page...
Minnesota	HF 2875	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	14
	SF 107/HF 2984	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	15
	HF 2096	Online Voter Registration	Enacted	17
Missouri	HB 1287, HB 1288	Early Voting	Failed	11
	HB 1449	Early Voting	Failed	11
	HB 2271	Early Voting	Failed	11
	SB 721, SB 749	Early Voting	Failed	11
	HB 1739	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
	HJR 90	Early Voting	Passed	11
Mississippi	HB 333, HB 1167	Early Voting	Failed	11
	SB 2010	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
	SB 2648	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	25
Nebraska	LB 661	Online Voter Registration	Enacted	17
	LB 127	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	25
	LB 746	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
New Hampshire	SB 183	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
New Jersey	A 2230/S 536	Early Voting	Pending	12
	A 426	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	15
	A 2982	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	15
	S 1428	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	15
	A 571	Online Voter Registration	Pending	17
	S 2328	Online Voter Registration	Pending	17
	AB 1702	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
	AR 39, AR 54/SR 35	Voting Rights	Pending	23
New Mexico	SB 72	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
New York	AB 172, AB 2099/SB 609, SB 1549	Same Day Registration	Pending	19
	AB 149/SB 1991	Online Voter Registration	Pending	17
	AB 689	Early Voting	Pending	12
	AB 2672	Early Voting	Pending	12
	AB 2301	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	15
	SB 2633	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	15
	SB 5526	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Pending	15

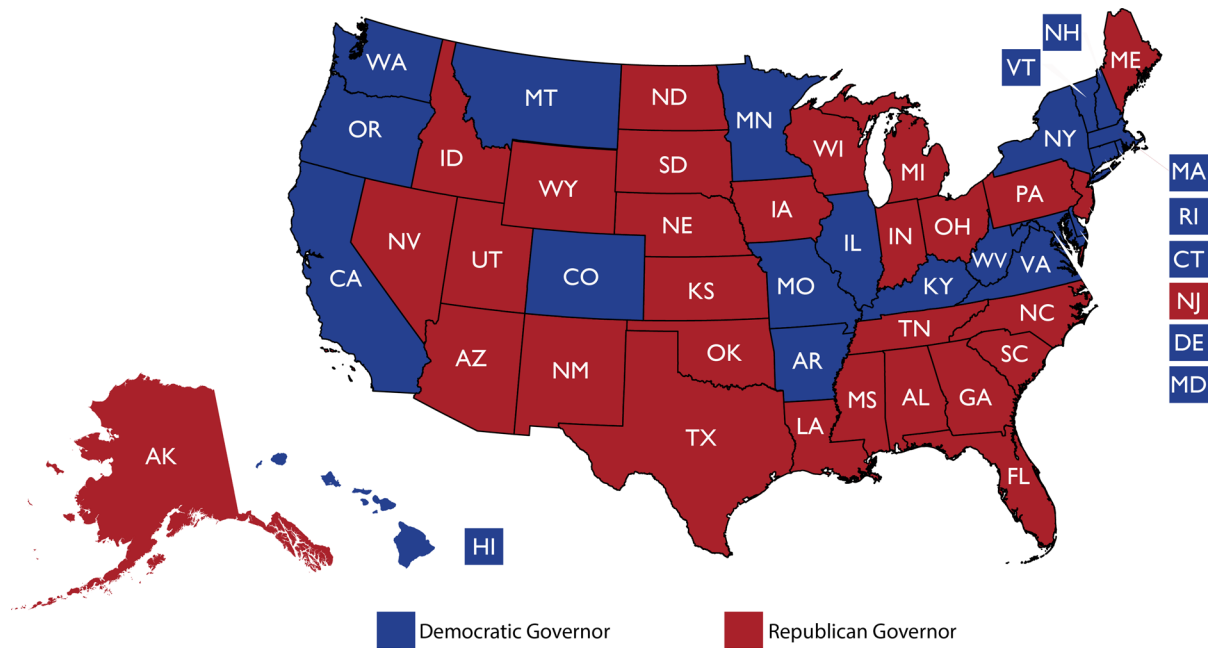
APPENDIX III: Beneficial Election Legislation by State, 2014

Table 11: Beneficial Election Legislation by State, 2014 (continued)

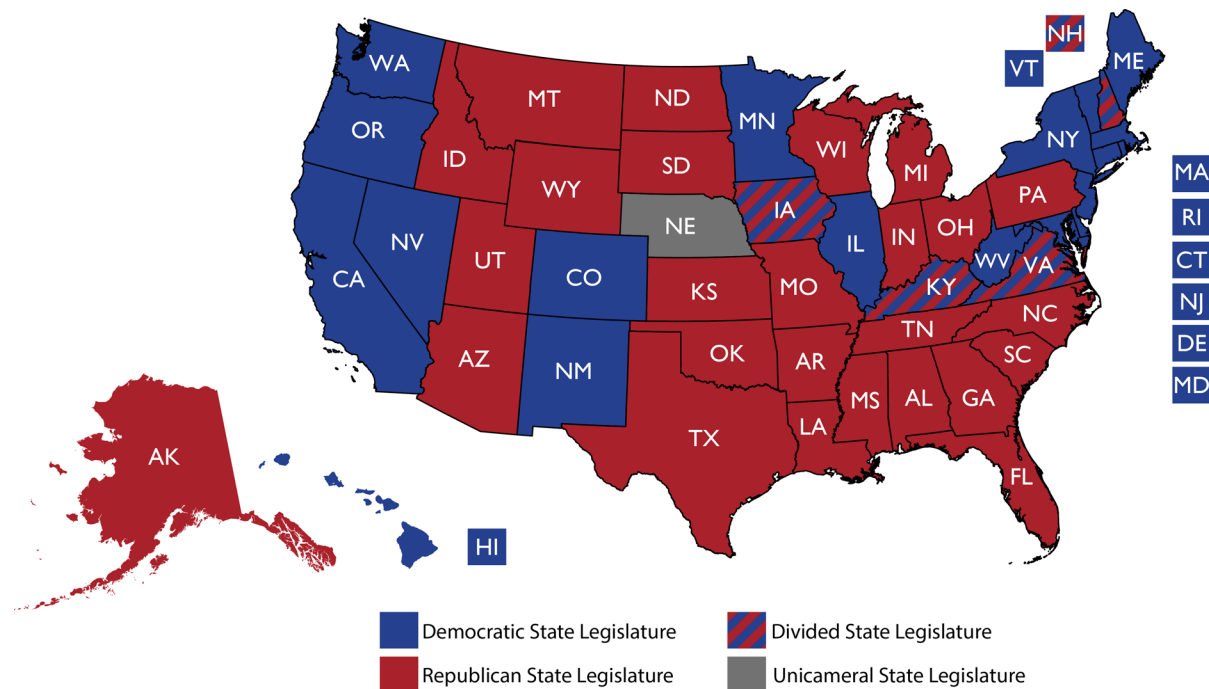
Legislature	Bill	Subject	Status	See Page...
New York	AB 3567/SB 424	Early Voting	Pending	12
	AB 3644	Early Voting	Pending	12
	AB 4526	Early Voting	Pending	12
	AB 5066	Early Voting	Pending	12
	AB 2042	Youth Voter Engagement	Pending	25
	AB 6852	Youth Voter Engagement	Pending	25
	SB 1990	Other Voter Registration	Pending	28
	AB 174/SB 586	Other Voter Registration	Pending	28
Oregon	SB 1581	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	25
Rhode Island	H 7601/S 2676	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
South Carolina	SB 4	Early Voting	Failed	12
Tennessee	SB 2227	Online Voter Registration	Failed	17
	SB 1082	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
Utah	SB 135	Early Voting	Failed	12
	HB 156	Same Day Registration	Enacted	19
	HB 282	Youth Voter Engagement	Enacted	25
Virginia	HB 75	Early Voting	Failed	12
	HB 692	Early Voting	Failed	12
	HB 800	Early Voting	Failed	12
	SB 3	Early Voting	Failed	12
	HB 7, HB 556	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	15
	HJ 21, HJ 25, HJ 48, HJ 70, HJ 78, HJ 97, HJ 107	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	15
	HB 83	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
	HB 564	Voter ID Expansion	Failed	21
HB 694	Youth Voter Engagement	Carry-over	25	
Washington	SB 5268	Same Day Registration	Failed	19
	HB 1279	Youth Voter Engagement	Failed	25
Wisconsin	AB 886	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	15
	AB 869	Other Voter Registration	Failed	28
Wyoming	HB 126	Ex-Felon Voting Rights Restoration	Failed	15

APPENDIX IV: Partisan Control of States, 2014

Partisan Control of Governor's Offices, 2014



Partisan Control of State Legislatures, 2014



Republican Secretaries of State and Election Chiefs

Alabama: Jim Bennett
Alaska: Mead Treadwell, Lt. Governor
Arizona: Ken Bennett
Arkansas: Mark Martin
Colorado: Scott Gessler
Florida: Ken Detzner
Georgia: Brian Kemp
Idaho: Ben Ysursa
Indiana: Connie Lawson
Iowa: Matt Schultz
Kansas: Kris Kobach
Louisiana: Tom Schedler
Michigan: Ruth Johnson
Mississippi: Delbert Hosemann
Nebraska: John Gale
New Jersey: Kim Guadagno
New Mexico: Dianna Duran
North Dakota: Alvin "Al" Jaeger
Ohio: Jon Husted
Pennsylvania: Carol Aichele
South Carolina: Mark Hammond
South Dakota: Jason Gant
Tennessee: Tre Hargett
Texas: John Steen
Utah: Spencer J. Cox, Lt. Governor
Washington: Kim Wyman
Wyoming: Max Maxfield

Democratic Secretaries of State and Election Chiefs

California: Debra Bowen
Connecticut: Denise Merrill
Kentucky: Alison Lundergan Grimes
Maine: Matthew Dunlap
Massachusetts: William Galvin
Minnesota: Mark Ritchie
Missouri: Jason Kander
Montana: Linda McCulloch
Nevada: Ross Miller
New Hampshire: William Gardner
Oregon: Kate Brown
Rhode Island: A. Ralph Mollis
Vermont: James Condos
West Virginia: Natalie Tennant
Wisconsin: Douglas La Follette

Miscellaneous

Delaware: Elaine Manlove, Commissioner of Elections, Department of Elections
Hawaii: Scott Nago, Chief Election Officer, Office of Elections
Illinois: Jesse R. Smart, Chairman, State Board of Elections
Maryland: Bobbie Mack, Chairman, State Board of Elections
New York: Todd Valentine and Robert Brehm, Co-Directors, State Board of Elections
North Carolina: Kim Westbrook Strach, Executive Director, State Board of Elections
Oklahoma: Paul Ziriak, Secretary of the State Election Board
Virginia: Charlie Judd, Chairman, State Board of Elections



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About Project Vote

Project Vote is a national nonpartisan, non-profit organization that promotes voting in historically underrepresented communities. Project Vote takes a leadership role in nationwide voting rights and election administration issues, working through research, litigation, and advocacy to ensure that our constituencies can register, vote, and cast ballots that count.

About the Author

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