Election
INTEGRITY NETWORK

Model Election Laws Handbook

OCTOBER 2026 EDITION





Dedication

The Election Integrity Network *Model Election Laws Handbook* is dedicated with deep gratitude to the hundreds of election integrity volunteers across the country who are members of the state election integrity coalitions, the EIN National Working Groups and the Policy Authentication Groups over the past five years. We especially appreciate the Chairs and leaders of each of the State Coalitions, local Task Forces and the subject matter specialists and volunteers in all of the areas of election integrity.

These tireless warriors for honest, transparent and accurate elections are the backbone of saving America's broken election systems.

Their dedication to the principles on which our country was founded, the fundamental notion articulated in the Declaration of Independence that "governments derive their just power from the consent of the governed…" is central to protecting our Republic.

Their collective efforts and expertise form the basis of everything contained in this Handbook.

Without their hard work over the past five years, none of this would have been possible.

The Election Integrity Network is comprised of hundreds and hundreds of these patriots and for them, every American who loves our country should be eternally grateful. They are the backbone of the volunteer force intent upon restoring the nation's trust in our elections and protecting self-government for future generations.

The American people owe each and every one of them – too numerous to mention by name – an enormous debt of gratitude.

Thank you, Election Integrity Network volunteers. You are saving our elections and saving our country.

October 2026

Table of Contents

Letter From Our Founder and Chairman 5

Note from EIN's President 6

Introduction to the Model Election Laws Handbook 7

US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights 7

The American People Support the US Citizens Election Bill of Rights 8

Principle I. Only US Citizens Should Participate in US Elections, in Any Manner 10

Principle II. Voter ID For All Votes / Voters: Acceptable ID Confirms Citizenship 21

Principle III. Restore Election Day, Qualify Absentee Voters; Require Reporting of Results on Election Night 28

Principle IV. Confirm Citizenship, Identity, & Residency of All Voters, Rigorous Voter Roll Maintenance 46

Principle V. Replace All Vulnerable / Insecure Voting Technology: Only Pre-Printed Secure Paper Ballots, Hand Marked 71

Principle VI. Confirm Accuracy of Election Results Pre-Certification; Require Post Election Independent Audits 83

Principle VII. Ensure Transparency of Elections and Election Records 92

Principle VIII. Protecting Deployed Military Voters, Separate from Overseas Civilians 103

Principle IX. Stop Billionaire-Concocted Election Schemes 112

Principle X. Citizen Standing to Enforce Election Laws, Appeal Administrative Decisions Under HAVA; Protect Laws from Partisan Legal Apparatus; Accountability & Penalties for Violations 117

Appendix 128

Appendix A: How to Use This Resource 129

Appendix B: Supporting Reference Materials for Model Laws 130

Letter From Our Founder and Chairman

FELLOW CITIZENS AND LEGISLATORS,

The integrity of our elections is the very foundation of self-government. The *Model Election Laws Handbook* is based upon the ten principles in the US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights, published by the Election Integrity Network in January 2025. Those ten fundamental principles are absolutely necessary to save America's elections from the disintegration of the integrity, accountability, and transparency that is, unfortunately, found in every state: in the election laws, election rules and policies, and election procedures. Everywhere.

The US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights was developed, compiled and distilled from recommendations by hundreds of citizen volunteers who have spent the past several years deeply involved in studying election processes across the nation. Election Integrity Network volunteers have learned, carefully observed and engaged in the election process, systems, policies, statutes, and procedures of elections at the local and state level and, from those lessons and experiences, and with deep knowledge of the issues, concerns, and problems in our elections, the US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights was developed. The election policies and model legislation in the Handbook provide the roadmap to implementing those principles.

What has become clear is that those who oppose election integrity really want corruption of our elections: they want dirty voter rolls, no confirming identity or eligibility of voters, allowing noncitizens to vote, blocking transparency, opposition to confirming the accuracy of election results prior to certification and, essentially, opposition to every policy in this handbook.

Ours is a binary choice when it comes to election policy: choose either election integrity vs. corrupt, inaccurate, and insecure elections. One or the other. There is no middle ground.

Every policy recommended in the Handbook will enhance and ensure the integrity and accuracy of our elections - which is what the American people want. Please be sure to review the Rasmussen polling data on the following pages that confirms these policies are desired by the voters.

We hope every Member of Congress, state legislator, election official, local and state policymaker and citizen volunteer will use the Handbook to create a framework for integrity in every election in our country from this day forward.

We look forward to working with all of you to accomplish that mission.

Cleta Mitchell

Founder and Chairman
Election Integrity Network

Note from EIN's President

As President of the Election Integrity Network, I am pleased to present the Election Policies Handbook—a practical resource for restoring confidence in America's elections.

This Handbook offers clear, actionable policy recommendations that state lawmakers, election administrators, and citizen advocates can use to strengthen election security. It targets real vulnerabilities in voter registration, ballot handling, tabulation, auditing, and certification—while promoting accuracy, accountability, and public trust.

Our republic requires elections that are accessible to every eligible voter yet firmly protected against error, fraud, and procedural weakness. The reforms outlined here close critical gaps, modernize outdated systems, and establish consistent safeguards that function effectively in every jurisdiction.

Election Integrity Network is committed to equipping state coalitions and grassroots leaders with the tools needed to build and maintain a permanent election integrity infrastructure of citizen volunteers across the nation. This Handbook provides the frameworks, rationale, and strategies to turn concern into concrete legislative and administrative results.

I encourage you to review these policies thoroughly and implement them in your state and community. The strength of American self-government depends on our shared commitment to elections that are worthy of the public's trust.

With determination and coordinated action, we can secure the integrity of our elections for generations to come.

Sharon Bemis

President
Election Integrity Network

Introduction to the Model Election Laws Handbook

This *Model Election Laws Handbook* equips legislators and citizen advocates with the principles of the US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights and adaptable legislative language to strengthen election integrity for every state. This will allow users to compare their state's statutes to the model provisions, select complete bills or individual sections, and combine elements across topics as needed to craft targeted solutions. Customize bracketed terms for your jurisdiction and coordinate with legislative counsel for proper integration. A more extensive how-to guide, including quick-start steps, appears in Appendix A following the Model Laws.

US Citizens Elections Bill of Rights

Preamble

We, the Citizen Voters of the United States do hereby proclaim this Elections Bill of Rights to secure the integrity of America's elections, which are the bedrock of America's constitutional republic; so that our elections are protected from fraud, manipulation, and error, free from foreign interference and influence, enabling the citizens of the United States of America to faithfully give to or withdraw our consent from those who seek to govern our nation, our states, and our local communities, enshrining in the laws of our nation the following principles:

I. Only US Citizens Participate in US Elections, in Any Manner

II. Voter ID For All Votes / Voters: Acceptable ID Confirms Citizenship

III. Restore Election Day, Qualify Absentee Voters; Results Election Night

IV. Confirm Citizenship, Identity, & Residency of All Voters, Rigorous Voter Roll Maintenance

V. Replace All Vulnerable / Insecure Voting Technology; Only Pre-Printed Secure Paper Ballots, Hand-Marked

VI. Confirm Accuracy of Election Results Pre-Certification; Require Post Election Independent Audits

VII. Ensure Transparency of Elections and Election Records

VIII. Protect Deployed Military Voters, Separate from Overseas Civilians

IX. Stop Billionaire-Concocted Election Schemes

X. Citizen Standing to Enforce Election Laws; Protect Laws from Leftwing Legal Apparatus; Accountability & Penalties for Violations

The American People Support the US Citizens Election Bill of Rights

In the fall of 2024, Election Integrity Network finalized the U.S. Citizens Elections Bill of Rights — a clear set of commonsense principles to protect every American's vote. We then teamed up with veteran pollster Scott Rasmussen to ask voters across the country what they think. The results confirmed we were right on target: Americans strongly support these basic reforms, even as confidence in our elections remains dangerously low.

Here's what the polling showed:

Fewer than half of all voters (45%) are very confident that their votes were accurately counted, and the proper winner was declared in recent elections. This includes just 46% of both Democrats and Republicans.



Not surprisingly, then, voters overwhelmingly support a number of basic election reforms such as requiring states to clean voter rolls, requiring that the number of ballots match the number of voters registered, photo ID and proof of citizenship requirements, and requiring all mail-in ballots to be received by Election Day.



These are highlights of research performed by RMG Research, Inc. on behalf of the FAIR Elections Fund.

This survey of 1,000 Registered Voters was conducted online by RMG Research Inc. January 17-21, 2025, and has a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.

The Principles

PRINCIPLE I.

Only US Citizens Should Participate in US Elections, in Any Manner

Principle I - Checklist for Election Integrity

A. States Should Adopt Only Citizens Vote Constitutional Amendments

Sample Constitutional Amendment: Only a citizen of the United States shall be eligible to vote in any election held within this State.

B. Require Documentary Proof of Citizenship and Confirmation of Citizenship Status to Register to Vote

1. Require physical documentary proof of U.S. citizenship for all voter registration applicants.
   a. Acceptable documents for proof of US citizenship include:

      - ✔ valid U.S. passport
      - ✔ certified birth certificate
      - ✔ consular report of birth abroad
      - ✔ certificate of citizenship
      - ✔ certificate of naturalization
      - ✔ enhanced driver's license or other state or federal government identification denoting citizenship status

2. Prohibit addition of any applicant to voter rolls until citizenship is verified (provisional registration only), require election officials to use state and federal government databases to confirm citizenship status prior to adding applicant(s) to voter rolls:

   - Department of Homeland Security Systematic Alien Verification Eligibility (SAVE) database
   - Social Security Administration (SSA) database, Help America Vote Verification (HAVV) system
   - State drivers license agencies' REAL ID records
   - Birth certificates / data from state vital statistics agency, amplified by data from the Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) program of the National Association of National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS)

3. For online and mail applications to register to vote, all required documentation shall be required and information verified prior to adding applicant to voter rolls

C. *States Must Confirm Citizenship Status of Current Registered Voters; Compare Voter Rolls to State DMV / Other Data*

- Require state drivers' license agencies to cooperate with election officials and to share citizenship data with election officials to compare voter rolls to drivers' license agencies REAL ID data
- Submission of entire state voter rolls to Department of Homeland Security /US Customs Immigration Services for comparison to the SAVE data system
- Utilize state and federal court records identifying prospective juror disqualification for non-citizenship
- Use all available data sources for confirmation of citizenship status of all registered voters

D. *States Must Confirm Citizenship Status for all new Voter Registrations with Social Security Administration per Help America Vote Verification (HAVV)*

- State should amend its agreement with the American Association of Motor Vehicle Agencies (AAMVA) to require inclusion of citizenship verification as part of the HAVV verification process, in order to utilize Social Security Administration citizenship data
- Mandate state agreements with Social Security Administration for Death Master File access and citizenship checks, incorporating into voter roll maintenance procedures

E. *DHS Must Provide Data to States at No Cost to Confirm Citizenship Status for Any New Registration, Current Voter Lists, Upon Request (Federal Action)*

- Require DHS (via USCIS SAVE program) to provide citizenship verification data for new applicants and free batch uploads of existing voter rolls upon state or local election official request, at no cost to the states or local jurisdictions.

F. *ID for Voting Must Clearly State CITIZEN on the ID; Only IDs Issued to US Citizens and State Residents Can Be Used for Registration and Voting*

- Mandate that any acceptable voter photo IDs (*e.g.*, driver's licenses, state IDs, passports) clearly denote "CITIZEN" or equivalent on the face if used for voting or registration
- Restrict registration and voting IDs to those issued only to verified U.S. citizens and state residents, excluding non-citizen IDs
- Provide free state-issued "For Voting Only" photo IDs for applicants whose citizenship and residency have been confirmed

G. *Eliminate Voter Registration at Any Agency Other Than Election Offices and DMV*

1. Require voter registration to be conducted at election offices and DMVs only, eliminating other agencies from registering voters.
2. Strict oversight of third-party registration drives to ensure no applicants are added to voter rolls until eligibility and citizenship status have been confirmed by election officials.
3. Prohibit automatic registration and require voter registration forms to be retained in hard copy, signed by applicant (not digital).

H. No Registrations Added to Voter Rolls Unless Confirmation of Identity, Residency and US Citizenship; States Must Confirm Missing ID for Residency, Identity, Citizenship or Remove from Rolls

1. Prohibit adding any applicant to voter rolls without verification of identity, residency, and U.S. citizenship
2. Require audit of voter rolls and confirm missing documentation for existing registrants, with removal of registration if registrant is unable to verify information and verify the information in the voter registration application
3. Implement provisional registration for incomplete applications, allowing voting only after full verification of identity, residency, citizenship and eligibility.

I. Federal (and State) Census Should Count and Confirm Citizen Population and Representation Should be Based on Citizen Population:

Apportion Representation Among States and Base All Representative Districts (Local, State, Federal) on Citizenship Population Only

1. State legislative resolution calling on Congress to restore the citizenship question to the decennial U.S. Census questionnaire and to publicly report citizen and non-citizen populations of each state.
2. Each state should conduct its own census to determine U.S. citizen population of the state
3. Apportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives should be based on U.S. citizen population
4. Adopt state requirements for congressional, state legislative, and all state/local districts to be based solely on U.S. citizen population

J. Prohibit Foreign Money in Issue Campaigns and Elections, Directly or Indirectly, with Criminal Penalties for Violation

1. Ban contributions, donations, or expenditures by foreign governments, nationals, or entities with >5% foreign ownership / revenue in any candidate, committee, ballot initiative, referendum, or election-related activity.
2. Require certification under penalty of perjury that no foreign funds are used for any issue campaign, with civil penalties up to three times the amount or $500,000, and criminal penalties up to five years imprisonment.
3. Declare any measure passed with prohibited foreign funds to be declared null and void.

K. Prohibit Foreign Ownership of Voting Equipment Companies and/or Election Related Systems, Prohibit Foreign Made or Ownership of Software or Parts Used in Voting Equipment

1. Ban foreign ownership or control of companies manufacturing or producing voting equipment, software, or systems, including prohibitions on foreign-made parts or software
2. Require all election-related entities to certify no foreign involvement with the entity, in any manner with strict penalties for violations

3. Align with broader protections against foreign influence in election infrastructure, including requiring audits to ensure compliance.
4. Require that all persons working in elections are US citizens, including permanent and temporary employees, contractors and vendors are US citizens only.

Model Laws for Principle I: Only U.S. Citizens Participate in U.S. Elections

Participation in American elections is a core right of United States citizens, and state law must clearly reflect that only citizens may register, vote, or be counted for representation. This Principle provides Model Laws to ensure that citizenship is verified at registration, confirmed for existing voter rolls, clearly denoted on identification used for voting, and recognized in how representation is apportioned. Together, these models give states practical tools to safeguard the franchise for citizens while maintaining clear procedures, due process, and administrative accountability.

Index – Model Laws for Principle I: Only U.S. Citizens Participate in U.S. Elections

1. **Citizens-Only Voter Registration Act**
Requires proof of United States citizenship and full eligibility checks at registration and before adding a voter to the rolls, using documentary evidence and database verification.

2. **Citizenship Verification of Existing Voter Rolls Act**
Directs election officials to verify the citizenship status of existing registered voters using state and federal data sources and to remove non-citizens following notice and due-process procedures.

3. **Citizen-Only Voter Identification Act**

Requires that identification documents acceptable for voter registration and voting clearly denote United States citizenship and provides for free "for voting only" identification for eligible citizens without other acceptable ID.

4. **Resolution on Citizen-Based Representation and Census Citizenship Data**

A model resolution urging Congress to restore the citizenship question to the decennial census, and to report citizen and non-citizen population counts, and to base apportionment of and representation in the US House of Representatives on citizen population.

Model Law 1: Citizens-Only Elections Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Citizens-Only Elections Act."

SECTION 2. PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS LIMITED TO UNITED STATES CITIZENS.

(A) It shall be unlawful for any individual who is not a citizen of the United States to vote in any election held within this State, including any election for public office, party primary, or ballot measure at the state, county, municipal, school district, or other political subdivision level.

(B) Any willful violation of this section shall constitute election fraud and shall be punishable to the full extent of this State's election statutes.

(C) No charter, ordinance, home-rule provision, or other local enactment may authorize voting in any election by individuals who are not United States citizens.

SECTION 3. DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.

(A) As a condition of registration, each applicant shall provide physical documentary proof of United States citizenship.

(B) Acceptable documents for proof of United States citizenship include:

(1) A valid United States passport;

(2) A certified birth certificate;

(3) A consular report of birth abroad;

(4) A certificate of citizenship;

(5) A certificate of naturalization; or

(6) An enhanced driver's license or other state or federal government identification document that, by its terms, denotes United States citizenship status.

(C) An applicant shall not be added to the official voter registration list until citizenship has been verified. Pending verification, the applicant's record shall be maintained in a provisional registration status and shall not be eligible for issuance of a ballot.

SECTION 4. VERIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP USING STATE AND FEDERAL DATABASES.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall utilize available state and federal databases to confirm the citizenship status of applicants before adding any individual to the official voter registration list, including, as available:

(1) The United States Department of Homeland Security Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program;

(2) The Social Security Administration database accessed through the Help America Vote Verification (HAVV) system;

(3) State driver's license agency records, including REAL ID-compliant records; and

(4) Birth-record and vital-statistics data maintained by the state and, where available, the Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) program of the National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems.

(B) For online and mail voter registration, all required citizenship documentation shall be submitted, and the information verified under subsection (A), before the applicant is added to the official voter registration list.

SECTION 5. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including procedures for provisional registration, database queries, and notice to applicants whose citizenship cannot be verified.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code]. Section [number] of [Title __, *Chapter*__] is amended or enacted to read consistent with this Act.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to all applications for voter registration submitted on or after that date.

Model Law 2: Citizenship Verification of Voter Rolls Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Citizenship Verification of Existing Voter Rolls Act."

SECTION 2. VERIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP FOR EXISTING REGISTRANTS.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall, on a recurring basis, verify the citizenship status of all individuals currently registered to vote in this State.

(B) For that purpose, the [Chief Election Official] shall compare the statewide voter registration list against available state and federal data sources, including:

(1) State driver's license agency records, including REAL ID-compliant records;

(2) Databases maintained by the United States Department of Homeland Security, including the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program, to the extent permitted by federal law;

(3) State and federal court records identifying individuals disqualified from jury service on the basis of non-citizenship; and

(4) Any other state or federal data source lawfully available for confirmation of citizenship status.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish secure electronic data-sharing agreements or memoranda of understanding with relevant agencies, including state driver's license agencies and federal agencies, to conduct the comparisons required by this section.

SECTION 3. PROCEDURES UPON A NON-CITIZENSHIP INDICATOR OR INABILITY TO CONFIRM CITIZENSHIP.

(A) If a comparison under Section 2 reasonably indicates that a registered voter may not be a United States citizen, the [Chief Election Official] or local election official shall:

(1) Provide written notice to the registrant at the address on file, stating the basis for the potential non-citizenship finding;

(2) Provide the registrant a period of not less than [X] days to submit documentary proof of United States citizenship; and

(3) Treat the registrant as in a pending status during the notice period, without canceling the registration or denying a ballot solely on the basis of the initial data match.

(B) If the registrant fails to respond within the notice period, or fails to provide satisfactory documentation, the registration shall be canceled, and the official shall document the basis for removal in the voter registration records.

(C) If the registrant provides satisfactory documentary proof of United States citizenship, the registration shall be maintained in active status, and the election official shall update records as needed to reflect the confirmation.

SECTION 4. USE OF DATA AND SAFEGUARDS.

(A) Data obtained under this Act shall be used solely for election-administration purposes, including confirmation of voter eligibility and maintenance of accurate voter registration lists.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall adopt procedures to protect the privacy and security of personal information accessed or shared under this Act, consistent with state and federal law.

(C) Data obtained under this Act redacted for personal identifying information shall be made available for public inspection at no cost to a citizen of this state.

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall complete an initial statewide verification of existing registered voters within [X] months of the effective date of this Act, and shall conduct verification at least once every [Y] years thereafter.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act.

© This Act shall be codified in [Title __, Chapter__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

Model Law 3: Citizen-Only Voter Identification Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Citizen-Only Voter Identification Act."

SECTION 2. CITIZENSHIP DESIGNATION ON VOTER IDENTIFICATION.

(A) Any identification document that is acceptable for voter registration or for casting a ballot under [Section ___ of the State Election Code] shall clearly denote, on its face, that the holder is a United States citizen if the document is issued to a citizen.

(B) The [State Driver's License Agency] and any other state agency that issues identification documents acceptable for voting shall, when issuing such documents to United States citizens, include a clear "CITIZEN" designation or equivalent language on the face of the document.

SECTION 3. RESTRICTION OF ACCEPTABLE VOTER IDENTIFICATION TO CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS.

(A) Only identification documents issued to verified United States citizens and residents of this State may be accepted for purposes of voter registration or casting a ballot in any election.

(B) Identification documents issued to non-citizens, including any licenses, permits, or identification cards marked or coded as non-citizen documents, shall not be accepted for voter registration or voting purposes.

SECTION 4. FREE "FOR VOTING ONLY" IDENTIFICATION.

(A) The State shall provide, at no cost to the applicant, a state-issued "For Voting Only" photo identification card to any eligible applicant who:

(1) Is a United States citizen;

(2) Is a resident of this State; and

(3) Lacks another acceptable form of voter identification.

(B) The [Chief Election Official], in coordination with the [State Driver's License Agency], shall establish procedures for issuing "For Voting Only" identification cards, including mobile or remote issuance options to serve voters who lack transportation or live in rural areas.

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [State Driver's License Agency] and other issuing agencies shall begin including the "CITIZEN" designation on newly issued and renewed identification documents used for voting no later than [date].

(B) Existing acceptable identification documents without a citizenship designation shall remain valid for voting until [sunset date], after which only documents meeting the requirements of this Act may be accepted.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] may adopt rules to implement this Act, including a public-education campaign to inform voters of acceptable identification documents and the availability of free "For Voting Only" IDs.

Model Resolution 4: Resolution on Citizen-Based Representation and Census Citizenship Data

A Resolution calling on Congress to restore the citizenship question to the decennial United States Census, to report citizen and non-citizen population counts, and to base representation on citizen population.

WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau's decennial enumeration is used to allocate seats in the United States House of Representatives and to draw federal, state, and local legislative districts; and

WHEREAS, current practice counts all persons, including non-citizens, for purposes of apportionment, even though only United States citizens are eligible to vote in federal and most state and local elections; and

WHEREAS, Congress and the Census Bureau have, in prior decades, included questions on citizenship status in census instruments, and proposals are now pending in Congress to restore a citizenship question and to report citizenship data for apportionment purposes; and

WHEREAS, accurate, publicly reported data regarding the citizen and non-citizen populations of each state will assist states in drawing fair and representative congressional, state legislative, and local districts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of [State], that:

The Legislature urges the Congress of the United States to enact legislation requiring that each decennial census questionnaire include a question asking whether the respondent and each member of the respondent's household is a United States citizen, and that the Census Bureau publicly report citizen and non-citizen population counts for each state, political subdivision, and census enumeration component.

The Legislature further urges the Congress to require that apportionment of seats in the United States House of Representatives and the districts for each State's congressional districts be based on the United States citizen population of the state, rather than total population, and calls on Congress to take all lawful steps necessary to accomplish that objective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the [Secretary of State / Chief Clerk] shall transmit copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of this State's congressional delegation.

Model Law 5: State Census for Redistricting Act

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to provide population data for redistricting based on the number of United States citizens residing in the State.

SECTION 2. STATE CENSUS.

The State shall conduct a census of the inhabitants in the State as of the first of April every ten years, beginning in 2030. The purpose of the State census shall be to redistrict all representational districts in the State based on citizen population only from and after 2030.

SECTION 3. UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP QUESTION.

The State census shall include a question requiring each respondent to the Census to state whether he or she is a citizen of the United States and shall further enumerate the number of United States citizens in each household, in order to identify the total number of United States citizens residing in the State as of the date of the State Census.

SECTION 4. USE OF CENSUS DATA.

The legislature and other electoral jurisdictions shall draw the district boundaries for each congressional, State legislative, and other electoral representative districts established under State law based on the population of United States citizens only.

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION.

The appropriate State official or agency may adopt rules necessary to implement this Act. Funds shall be appropriated and made available to such agency as necessary to conduct the State census.

Appendix

Appendix B.1 – Only Citizens Participate in U.S. Elections, in Any Manner

KEY FEDERAL STATUTES AND AUTHORITIES

- **National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA)**, 52 U.S.C. § 20501 et seq. https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title52/subtitle2/chapter205&edition=prelim
- **Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)**, 52 U.S.C. § 20901 et seq. https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title52/subtitle2/chapter209&edition=prelim
- **Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996** – § 656. https://www.congress.gov/104/crpt/hrpt828/CRPT-104hrpt828.pdf
- **REAL ID Act of 2005;** Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regulations (6 C.F.R. Part 37). https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-16376/pdf/COMPS-16376.pdf
- **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) SAVE Program.** https://www.uscis.gov/save
- Social Security Act § 205(r) – Death Master File. https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title02/0205.htm
- 18 U.S.C. § 611 – Voting by aliens. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/611
- **52 U.S.C. § 10307** – Voting fraud and related offenses. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/52/10307

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act*** (H.R. 22, 119th Congress) – requires documentary proof of U.S. citizenship for federal voter registration (passed House April 10, 2025). https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/22/text

SELECTED STATE STATUTES AND MODELS

- **Kansas SAFE Act** – proof-of-citizenship and ID. https://ksrevisor.gov/statutes/ksa_ch25.html
- **Alabama photo ID and citizenship provisions.** https://law.justia.com/codes/alabama/title-17/chapter-9/article-2/section-17-9-30/
- **Arizona Prop 200, H.B. 2243** – citizenship verification. https://www.recorder.pima.gov/images/prop200_text.pdf
- **Georgia S.B. 202** – ID and registration changes. https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/201121
- **Georgia S.B. 202** (2021 Election Integrity Act) – restricts ballot drop boxes to one per 100,000 registered voters, requires indoor placement at early-voting sites only (available only during early-voting hours), and imposes photo ID for absentee ballots. Key provisions upheld in federal court in 2025. Enrolled bill text: https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/201498
- **Mississippi:** New registrants must be checked through S.A.V.E. database and additional sources for citizenship prior to placing on the voter rolls. https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2026/html/SB/2500-2599/SB2588PS.htm
- **Missouri Const. Amendment 6.** https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Elections/2024GeneralElectionBallotMeasures.pdf
- **North Dakota election rules** (no registration; strict residency/ID). https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t16-1c01.pdf
- **Texas Election Code, tit. 2** (citizenship affirmation & ID). https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/EL/htm/EL.13.htm
- **Wyoming House Bill 156 (2025) / House Enrolled Act 57** – requires documentary proof of U.S. citizenship and 30-day Wyoming residency for voter registration (effective July 1, 2025; one of the strictest statewide requirements). Official summary and text: https://sos.wyo.gov/Elections/Legislation/2025.aspx Bill text: https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2025/HB0156
- **South Dakota Senate Bill 175 (2026)** – Proof of citizenship to register (South Dakota SAVE Act) https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Subject/7416
- **State laws on foreign spending in ballot-measure campaigns.** https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_governing_foreign_spending_in_ballot_measure_campaigns

KEY COURT DECISIONS

- **Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd., 553 U.S. 181 (2008).** https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/553/181/
- **Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council (ITCA), 570 U.S. 1 (2013).** https://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/12-71
- **Fish v. Kobach, 840 F.3d 710 (10th Cir. 2016).** https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/appellate-courts/ca10/16-3147/16-3147-2016-10-19.html
- **League of Women Voters v. Newby (D.C. Cir. 2016).** https://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-dc-circuit/1748970.html
- **Brnovich v. DNC, 594 U.S. ___ (2021).** https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/20pdf/19-1257_g204.pdf

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Heritage Foundation** – citizenship and proof-of-citizenship analyses. https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity
- **Public Interest Legal Foundation** – "Alien Invasion" series. https://publicinterestlegal.

org/research/

- Honest Elections Project – 2024 reform report (citizenship section). https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/HEP_2024-Election-Reform-Report_v4.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - Statement of Principles on Legislative Oversight. https://alec.org/model-policy/statement-of-principles-on-legislative-oversight/
  - Resolution to Restore Citizenship on United States Census. https://alec.org/model-policy/resolution-to-include-citizenship-on-united-states-census/
  - Only Citizens Vote Model Policy https://alec.org/model-policy/only-citizens-vote-model-policy/
  - Citizen Only Voting Amendment https://alec.org/model-policy/citizen-only-voting-amendment/
- **U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)** – HAVA resources. https://www.eac.gov/about/help_america_vote_act.aspx
- **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)** – voter ID & proof-of-citizenship database. https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Election Data & Science Lab** – research library. https://electionlab.mit.edu/research

PRINCIPLE II.

Voter ID For All Votes / Voters: Acceptable ID Confirms Citizenship

Principle II Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Photo ID Must be Required by Law for All Methods of Voting

1. Require photo identification for every ballot cast, including in-person voting at a polling place, during early voting, or by another method authorized by state law, to ensure uniform verification across all voting modes.
2. Mandate that voters present or provide an acceptable photo identification document, or the identifying information from that document where a physical presentation requirement is not practicable, when applying for or casting any ballot, with no exceptions for no-ID voting except limited religious exemptions handled through alternative non-photo IDs and other accommodations required by applicable federal or state law.
3. Apply photo ID requirements consistently to all elections (primary, general, special, municipal, federal, state, local, referenda), aligning with public support for strong verification measures.

B. Acceptable ID for Voting Can Only Be Type That Confirms Identity, Residency, and US Citizenship

1. Require that acceptable voter IDs are those that are issued to and confirm U.S. citizenship, containing full legal identityor other identifying information sufficient to verify the voter's identity under state law, and state residency, such as a valid unexpired U.S. passport, enhanced driver's license or identification card issued by a driver's license agency with photo ID explicitly indicating citizenship status, or military ID accompanied by documentation or verification authorized by state law to establish citizenship.
2. Require state-issued driver's licenses or identification cards used for voting to prominently indicate citizenship status (e.g., "CITIZEN" notation) if issued to citizens, and prohibit use of non-citizen IDs or those without citizenship indication unless the voter establishes citizenship through an alternative method authorized by state law.
3. Provide free state-issued "For Voting Only" photo IDs that denote CITIZEN, available to eligible citizens upon presentation of documentary proof of citizenship, identity, age, and residency.
4. For religious exemptions from photographic requirements, allow non-photo state IDs issued upon proof of religious objection, full SSN, and other identity documents verifying citizenship, residency and eligibility to vote
5. Eliminate other forms of identification that are issued to non-citizens and non-residents to be acceptable for voting purposes.

C. Additional Verification for People Voting by Mail (QR Code or Other Non-Subjective Identifier Linked to Unique Voter Registration Number)

1. In addition to the photo ID requirement applicable for voting, require additional verification for requesting an absentee/mail ballot such as a unique voter identifier (*e.g.*, voter registration number) linked to registration records.
2. Mandate that mail/absentee return envelopes include a non-subjective identifier (*e.g.*, QR code generated from voter registration database or unique voter ID number) that is securely linked to the voter's registration record and permits election officials to verify the identity and registration status of the voter before the ballot is accepted for processing or counting.
3. The identifier and related verification process should preserve an auditable record of the ballot request, issuance, return, verification, and disposition, without revealing the voter's ballot selections.
4. Integrate additional mail verification with overall chain-of-custody and audit processes, ensuring ballots are not processed until identifiers are confirmed, with provisional processes for mismatches and rejection if not verified in accordance with state law and any notice, cure, or other procedural protections required by applicable law.
5. Verification must occur prior to processing or counting of the absentee ballot.
6. States should establish a clear, uniform deadline for resolving a verification discrepancy before ballot tabulation or certification, as applicable under state law, and should not count a ballot that remains unverified after the applicable deadline.

Model Laws for Principle II. Voter ID For All Votes / Voters: Acceptable ID Confirms Citizenship

Voters should present reliable identification for every ballot cast, and that identification should confirm both identity and United States citizenship. This Principle provides Model Laws to require photo identification for all methods of voting, ensure that absentee and mail ballots are verified using clear, objective criteria, and maintain consistent standards across elections. Together, these measures strengthen public confidence that every ballot is cast by an eligible citizen and counted under uniform rules.

Index – Model Laws for Principle II: Voter ID for All Votes/Voters

1. **Photo Identification for All Voting Methods Act**

   Requires voters to present acceptable photo identification for all methods of voting, defines ID standards that confirm citizenship and residency, and provides free "for voting only" identification to eligible citizens without other ID.

2. **Absentee Ballot Verification and Integrity Act**

   Adds objective verification requirements for absentee and mail ballots, including unique identifiers and pre-count verification steps, to ensure that only eligible voters' ballots are issued, returned, and counted.

Model Law 1: Photo Identification for All Voting Methods Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Photo Identification for All Voting Methods Act."

SECTION 2. PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR ALL VOTING.

(A) Each individual who casts a ballot in any election held in this State shall present or provide valid photo identification before the ballot is issued or counted, regardless of the method of voting.

(B) This requirement applies to:

(1) In-person voting at polling places on election day;

(2) In-person early voting;

(3) Absentee voting by mail; and

(4) Any other method of voting authorized by state law.

(C) For voters casting absentee or mail ballots, a photocopy or electronic image of acceptable photo identification shall be submitted with the ballot application or returned ballot, as specified by the [Chief Election Official], together with any additional non-subjective identifier required under the Absentee Ballot Verification and Integrity Act or other applicable state law.

SECTION 3. ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.

(A) Photo identification acceptable for voting purposes shall be issued by the State or by the United States government and shall:

(1) Contain the full legal name of the voter (full first name, middle name or initial, and last name);

(2) Contain the voter's photograph;

(3) Display the voter's date of birth in full (not partial);

(4) Confirm the voter's United States citizenship status; and

(5) Confirm the voter's state residency.

(B) Forms of identification that meet the requirements of subsection (A) include:

(1) A valid, unexpired United States passport;

(2) An enhanced driver's license or state identification card issued by this State's driver's license agency, with photo and explicit citizenship designation on its face;

(3) A United States military identification card, accompanied by documentation establishing proof of citizenship; or

(4) A state-issued "For Voting Only" photo identification card issued under Section 4 of this Act.

(C) State-issued driver's licenses and identification cards that are acceptable for voting shall prominently display a "CITIZEN" notation or equivalent designation on the face of the document if issued to a United States citizen.

(D) Identification documents issued to non-citizens, including driver's licenses, permits, or identification cards marked or coded as non-citizen documents, shall not be accepted for voter registration or voting purposes.

SECTION 4. FREE STATE-ISSUED "FOR VOTING ONLY" PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.

(A) The State Driver's License Agency shall provide, at no cost to the applicant, a state-issued "For Voting Only" photo identification card clearly marked with the word "CITIZEN" to any eligible applicant who:

(1) Is a United States citizen;

(2) Is a resident of this State;

(3) Has reached the age required to register to vote; and

(4) Lacks another acceptable form of photo identification for voting.

(B) To obtain a "For Voting Only" photo identification card, the applicant shall present documentary proof of United States citizenship, identity, age, and residency as prescribed by the [Chief Election Official].

(C) The [Chief Election Official], in coordination with the [State Driver's License Agency], shall establish procedures for issuing "For Voting Only" identification cards, including mobile issuance units or other remote issuance options to serve voters who lack transportation or reside in rural or underserved areas.

SECTION 5. RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION FROM PHOTOGRAPHIC REQUIREMENT.

(A) A voter who has a sincerely held religious objection to being photographed may apply to the [Chief Election Official] for a non-photo identification for voting purposes.

(B) To qualify for a religious exemption, the voter shall:

(1) Submit a signed affidavit stating the religious basis for the objection;

(2) Provide proof of religious affiliation or membership, as appropriate;

(3) Provide a full Social Security number; and

(4) Provide other identity documents sufficient to verify United States citizenship, residency, and eligibility to vote in this State.

(C) Upon approval of a religious exemption, the [Chief Election Official] shall issue a non-photo state identification card for voting purposes that includes the voter's full legal name, date of birth, residential address, and a "CITIZEN" designation, along with a notation that the exemption was granted on religious grounds.

(D) The voter shall present the non-photo identification card at the time of voting and may be required to sign an affirmation of identity and eligibility.

SECTION 6. UNIFORM APPLICATION TO ALL ELECTIONS.

Photo identification requirements under this Act apply to all elections held in this State, including primary elections, general elections, special elections, municipal elections, school board elections, referenda, and any other election for public office or ballot measure at the state, county, or local level.

SECTION 7. PROVISIONAL BALLOTS FOR VOTERS WITHOUT ACCEPTABLE IDENTIFICATION.

(A) If a voter appears at a polling place without acceptable photo identification and does not qualify for a religious exemption, the voter may cast a provisional ballot.

(B) The provisional ballot shall be counted only if the voter, within [number] days following the election, appears in person before the local election official and presents acceptable photo identification or documentary proof qualifying for a religious exemption.

(C) Provisional ballots that are not verified within the time period specified in subsection (B) shall not be counted.

SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] and [State Driver's License Agency] shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including procedures for verifying photo identification submitted with absentee ballots and for issuing free "For Voting Only" identification cards.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to all elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 2: Absentee Ballot Verification and Integrity Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Absentee Ballot Verification and Integrity Act."

SECTION 2. ADDITIONAL VERIFICATION FOR ABSENTEE AND MAIL BALLOTS.

(A) In addition to the photo identification requirement established by [reference to Photo ID Act or existing state law], each application for an absentee or mail ballot shall include the applicant's unique voter registration number and other identifying information as prescribed by the [Chief Election Official]. The [Chief Election Official] shall establish procedures for an applicant who does not know the applicant's registration number to obtain or verify that number through a secure process.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall verify the applicant's identity, registration status, and eligibility before issuing an absentee or mail ballot, by comparing the information provided in the application against the statewide voter registration database.

SECTION 3. NON-SUBJECTIVE IDENTIFIER ON ABSENTEE BALLOT RETURN ENVELOPES.

(A) Each absentee or mail ballot return envelope shall include a non-subjective unique identifier linked to the voter's registration record and unique to the ballot issued for that election.

(B) Acceptable non-subjective identifiers include:

(1) A QR code or bar code generated from the statewide voter registration database and unique to the individual voter; or

(2) A unique voter identification number or registration number printed on the envelope and linked to the voter's registration record.

(C) Election officials shall scan or otherwise verify the unique identifier on each returned ballot envelope to confirm:

(1) The ballot was issued for the election in which it is returned;

(2) The identifier corresponds to a valid voter-registration record;

(3) The identity and registration status of the voter;

(4) The voter has not already cast or returned another ballot in that election; and

(5) The ballot has been received and processed in accordance with applicable chain-of-custody requirements.

SECTION 4. VERIFICATION PRIOR TO PROCESSING OR COUNTING.

(A) No absentee or mail ballot shall be removed from its return envelope, processed, or counted until election officials have verified:

(1) The unique identifier on the return envelope corresponds to the ballot issued to the voter for that election;

(2) The unique identifier matches a valid voter-registration record;

(3) The photo identification provided with the ballot, if required under this Act or other applicable law, matches the voter-registration record;

(4) Any signature, affirmation, or other authentication required by state law is consistent with the

voter-registration record; and

(5) The voter has not previously cast or returned another ballot in that election.

(B) If verification identifies a discrepancy, election officials shall segregate the ballot from ballots eligible for tabulation, document the discrepancy and the basis for the preliminary determination, and provide notice to the voter as required by applicable law.

(C) A ballot subject to subsection (B) may be accepted only if the discrepancy is resolved by the deadline established under Section 6 of this Act and all required verification standards are satisfied. A ballot that remains unverified after that deadline shall not be counted.

SECTION 5. INTEGRATION WITH CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY AND AUDIT PROCESSES.

(A) The verification procedures established under this Act shall be integrated with the overall chain-of-custody and audit processes for absentee and mail ballots.

(B) Election officials shall maintain an auditable record of every absentee or mail ballot request, issuance, transmission, return, receipt, verification review, acceptance, rejection, tabulation eligibility determination, and final disposition. The record shall include the ballot identifier; relevant dates and times; the user, official, or system performing the action; and the documented basis for any rejection or adverse determination. The record shall not disclose the voter's ballot selections.

(C) Records maintained under this section shall be subject to post-election audit and public inspection as provided by law.

SECTION 6. VERIFICATION DEADLINE AND RESOLUTION OF DISCREPANCIES.

(A) All required verification of an absentee or mail ballot, including verification of the unique identifier, photo identification where required, signature or other authentication where required, and voter-registration status, shall be completed before the ballot is removed from its return envelope, processed, or counted.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish a uniform deadline for resolving a verification discrepancy. The deadline shall occur before ballot tabulation or certification, as applicable under state law.

(C) A ballot that remains unverified after the applicable deadline shall not be counted.

(D) Nothing in this section prohibits a state from allowing a voter to remedy a discrepancy before election day or before the deadline established under subsection (B), provided the remedy is completed in accordance with uniform procedures established by law.

(E) No process for "post-election curing" of absentee or mail-in deficiencies shall be permitted. Any ballot that fails verification under this Act shall not be counted.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall develop and implement a system for generating and verifying unique identifiers on absentee ballot return envelopes, including QR codes or unique voter identification numbers, within [X] months of the effective date of this Act.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including procedures for verification, chain-of-custody documentation, and voter notification of deficiencies.

(C) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(D) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to all elections held on or after that date.

Appendix B.2 – Voter ID for All Votes/Voters: Acceptable ID Confirms Citizenship

Use Policy B.1's authorities plus:

KEY RESOURCES

- **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) voter ID overview** (photo/non-photo, in-person and mail). https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id
- **Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd.** (photo ID). https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/553/181/
- **MIT Election Data & Science Lab** – turnout and ID research. https://electionlab.mit.edu/research
- **State examples applying ID to mail ballots** (Georgia, Texas, Arizona) summarized via NCSL. https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Securing our Elections Act of 2025*** **(H.R. 156)** – establishes consistent photo ID requirements for federal elections. https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/156/text

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Interstate Voter Assistance Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-Interstate-Voter-Assistance-Act_v5.pdf
  - The Documentary Proof of Citizenship Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-The-Proof-of-Citizenship-Act_v5.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - Interstate Voter Assistance Act https://alec.org/model-policy/interstate-voter-assistance-act/
  - Valid Voter Identification Act https://alec.org/model-policy/voter-id-citizenship-on-id-act/
  - Resolution to Restore Citizenship on United States Census. https://alec.org/model-policy/resolution-to-include-citizenship-on-united-states-census/

PRINCIPLE III.

Restore Election Day, Qualify Absentee Voters; Require Reporting of Results on Election Night

Principle III Checklist for Election Integrity

A. In-Person Voting on Election Day

1. Designate Election Day as the primary voting period for in-person participation, with all eligible registered voters casting ballots at their assigned neighborhood precinct polling places on the designated Election Day.
2. Restore a secure, precinct-based election model as the standard for in-person voting to enhance chain of custody, auditability, transparency, and public trust.

B. Limit In-Person Early Voting to 7 Days

1. Restrict in-person early voting to a maximum of seven (7) days preceding Election Day, ending no later than on the Friday or Saturday before Election Day.
2. Establish specified hours for early voting and assign all precincts to designated locations during early voting, rather than county-wide voting centers, to maintain security and manageability.
3. Require early in-person voting to follow strict chain-of-custody and verification procedures similar to Election Day, with ballots securely stored until tabulation on Election Night.
4. Prohibit extended or indefinite early voting periods that span weeks or months, to minimize administrative risks, chain-of-custody vulnerabilities, and voter confusion.
5. Prohibit mobile or traveling voting centers.
6. Prohibit ballots on demand.
7. Ensure that ballots, pre-printed on secure paper, are prepared and distributed to each early voting location in numbers sufficient to accommodate the registered voters assigned to each early voting location, and ensure proper chain of custody for all ballots distributed and/or used during early voting.
8. All early voting shall be treated as Election Day voting for purposes of application of election statutes, including but not limited to procedures for observers.

C. Vote in Precinct Polling Places, Limit Size of Precincts so All Can Vote on Election Day

1. Mandate that all in-person voting occur at physical precinct polling places assigned based on the voter's residential eligible voting address, with advance assignment to ensure proper ballot preparation and distribution.
2. Cap precinct size at a level (*e.g.*, approximately 1,500 eligible voters or as needed) that allows all assigned voters to vote on Election Day without excessive wait times or capacity issues, promoting efficient processing and accessibility.

3. If multiple precincts share a single physical venue / polling location, require separate processing areas, distinct ballot handling, and independent tabulation/reporting per precinct to preserve chain of custody by precinct for post-election reconciliation and audit purposes.

D. Establish Criteria for Eligibility to Vote Absentee

1. Replace no-excuse absentee voting with excuse-required (excuse-only) absentee voting, limiting eligibility to specific verifiable categories such as active-duty military/overseas voters, voters with disabilities preventing in-person attendance, illness or hospitalization, necessary absence from the jurisdiction on Election Day and during early voting, or other bona fide hardships, attested under penalty of perjury when applying to vote absentee.
2. Require absentee ballot applicants to specify their qualifying excuse, with election officials verifying eligibility before issuing absentee ballots.
3. Require return of absentee ballots to be by USPS mail or commercial or courier mail, or by hand-delivery by the voter, an immediate family member, a designated caregiver, who shall sign a delivery return affidavit upon delivery of the absentee ballot.
4. Prohibit the use of drop boxes for return of absentee ballots.
5. Prohibit the use of any permanent absentee voter lists.
6. Mandate that mail/absentee return envelopes include a non-subjective identifier (e.g., QR code generated from voter registration database or unique voter ID number) so election officials can confirm the validity of the returned ballot, and the identity and registration status of voter before processing the absentee ballot.
7. Prohibit voter identification visiblity to the public; all voter identification must be inserted into the privacy envelope provided by election officials.

E. Require Verification of Identity, Citizenship, and Residency of All Voters, Using Proper ID; No Vote Can Be Counted Until Verified Eligible Voter

1. Mandate acceptable photo ID (confirming identity, citizenship, and residency) for all voting methods, including in-person and absentee, with no ballot processed or counted until full verification against voter registration records.

F. Eliminate Same Day Registration

1. Prohibit same-day or Election Day voter registration in all circumstances, requiring registration to close well in advance (*e.g.*, 30 days before early voting or 45 days before Election Day) to allow full verification of eligibility, residency, and citizenship.
2. Ensure no on-site registration additions occur during voting periods, with all registrations subject to pre-verification of citizenship, identity, and residency at election offices or DMVs only.
3. Reject any provisional or emergency registration mechanisms that would bypass advance verification requirements on or near Election Day.

G. Processing and Tabulation of Absentee Ballots Must Be Conducted in Public

1. Require all steps of absentee ballot processing—including envelope opening, ID verification, ballot removal, and tabulation—to occur in public, with meaningful observation by bipartisan/multipartisan observers permitted throughout.
2. Establish designated public areas or procedures for observable absentee handling, with

detailed chain-of-custody logs, video recording (where feasible), and public records access to enhance accountability.

3. Mandate that absentee tabulation integrates with overall public observation requirements, ensuring no closed-door or unobserved processing occurs.

H. Absentee Ballots Must Be Received by Close of Polls on Election Day, No Ballot 'Curing' or Extended Deadlines for ANY Ballots

1. Require all absentee ballots (including mail-in and UOCAVA ballots) to be physically received by the election office by the close of polls on Election Day to be eligible for counting.
2. Prohibit acceptance, curing (*e.g.*, for signature mismatches, missing ID, or defects), or counting of any ballots received after polls close, with no grace periods, postmark extensions, or late-arrival allowances.
3. Enforce requirements for all ballots to be received by the close of polls on Election Day, rejecting late ballots outright to ensure finite voting periods and Election Night results.

I. Absentee Ballots May Be Processed and Verified in Advance, but Not Tabulated Until on Election Day and Reported on Election Night

1. Permit advance verification and processing of absentee ballot eligibility (*e.g.*, voter status, signature or other ID match, excuse validation) upon receipt in the election office, with secure storage, retention and chain-of-custody of all absentee ballots and envelopes.
2. Prohibit any tabulation or counting of absentee ballots prior to opening of polls on Election Day.
3. Prohibit reporting of tabulation of absentee ballots until after the close of polls on Election Day
4. Mandate that verified absentee ballots be integrated into precinct-level tabulation and publicly reported with in-person early and election day voting on Election Night.
5. Mandate that once tabulation of ballots has commenced, counting shall continue until completed.
6. The chief state election official shall publicly announce at 5 pm the day before Election Day the total number of absentee ballots, including UOCAVA ballots, issued by all election jurisdictions in the state.
7. The chief state election official shall publicly announce by midnight on Election Night the number of absentee ballots received by all election jurisdictions remaining to be tabulated as of the close of the polls on Election Day.
8. Unofficial election results shall be published and reported as soon as tabulation is completed after the close of polls on Election Day, with the report of outstanding absentee ballots remaining to be counted.

J. Special Procedures for Absentee Voters in Healthcare or Residential Facilities and Voting by Homeless Persons (Redline)

1. States should establish a process for protection of voting rights of vulnerable voters to include people who are:
   - Homeless
   - Residents of medical or rehabilitation facilities and hospitals
   - Residents of group homes for mentally disabled persons who are not mentally incapacitated
   - Residents of facilities for elderly citizens

2. States should prohibit the ability of advocacy groups to steal the votes of mentally handicapped persons, residents of memory care units, and other vulnerable voters.
3. States should establish special voting deputies for delivery of absentee ballots to residents of the types of facilities described above and protect the process of absentee voting by eligible residents of the facilities, by requiring designated, bipartisan teams to:

    - Deliver ballots, observe the voting process by each voter, providing assistance and instructions without advising the vulnerable voter on candidate selection or responses to ballot questions
    - Collect and/or review the photo ID or other eligibility documents required under state law for voting
    - Observe the voter's insertion of the completed ballot in a security envelope and deposit into an official ballot container that cannot be opened by the bipartisan team members
    - Return the secured container with completed ballots to the election office

4. Require bipartisan teams to be responsible for maintaining chain of custody of each ballot issued and completed, and preparation of the completed log documenting proper chain of custody.
5. Allow homeless voters to register and vote in person in an election office and not at an advocacy center or homeless shelter, such that no political party or advocacy organization can improperly influence or apply pressure to homeless voters before or during the voting process.
6. States should prohibit any person, group, or organization from exerting undue influence over, or engaging in ballot interference regarding, the registration of a protected voter without the voter's express permission, not merely the completion of the ballot itself.
7. States should require that persons who reside in memory-care units, or who have been adjudicated incompetent or mentally incapacitated by a court, not be subjected to pressure regarding voter registration or voting.

Model Laws for Principle III. Restore Election Day, Qualify Absentee Voters; Require Reporting of Results on Election Night

Election Day should be the central, visible moment when most citizens cast their ballots and learn the results. This Principle provides Model Laws to restore Election Day as the anchor of in-person voting, strictly qualify and manage absentee voting, and require timely, precinct-level reporting of results on Election Night. Together, these measures reduce opportunities for confusion or manipulation and strengthen public confidence in the outcome.

Index – Model Laws for Principle III: Restore Election Day and Election Night Results

1. **Election Day and Limited Early Voting Act**
Restores Election Day as the primary in-person voting period, limits early voting to a short, defined window, and applies full Election Day chain-of-custody and observer rules to all early voting.

2. **Neighborhood Precinct-Based Voting Restoration Act**
Re-establishes neighborhood, precinct-based voting for both Election Day and early voting, restricts county-wide vote centers, and requires ballots, tabulation, and reporting to be organized and

reconciled at the precinct level.

3. **Absentee Voting Qualification and Election Night Reporting Act**
Returns absentee voting to an excuse-required system, sets strict rules for eligibility, handling, and deadlines, and requires valid absentee ballots to be received by Election Day and included in precinct-level results reported on Election Night.

4. **Vulnerable Voter Protection and Special Voting Deputies Act**
Protects vulnerable and facility-based voters through bipartisan special voting deputies, strong chain-of-custody requirements, and clear prohibitions on undue influence and ballot harvesting.

5. **Residential Facility Voter Access and Ballot Tracking Act**
This Model provides transparency for the request and tracking of ballots in residential health care facilities.

Model Law 1: Election Day and Limited Early Voting Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Election Day and Limited Early Voting Act."

SECTION 2. ELECTION DAY AS PRIMARY VOTING PERIOD.

(A) Election Day shall be the primary voting period for in-person participation in all elections held in this State.

(B) All eligible registered voters shall be assigned to a precinct polling place based on their residential address and shall cast their in-person ballots during the early voting period or on Election Day using the ballot style of their home precinct, except as otherwise provided by law for absentee or provisional voters.

(C) The State shall maintain a secure, precinct-based election model as the standard for in-person voting to enhance chain of custody, auditability, transparency, and public confidence in election results.

SECTION 3. IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING.

(A) In-person early voting shall be a maximum of seven (7) consecutive days immediately preceding Election Day, ending no later than the Friday or Saturday before Election Day.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish specified hours for in-person early voting during the early voting period.

(C) During the early voting period, each county shall conduct in-person early voting only at designated early voting locations. Early voting locations may serve more than one precinct, but each voter shall be processed using the voter's home-precinct record and ballot style.

SECTION 4. CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY AND BALLOT SECURITY FOR EARLY VOTING.

(A) Early in-person voting shall follow chain-of-custody, verification, and observer procedures substantially similar to those in effect on Election Day.

(B) All ballots cast during in-person early voting shall be securely stored, with sealed ballot containers and documented chain-of-custody logs, until tabulation on Election Night.

(C) Ballots used during early voting shall be pre-printed on secure paper and prepared in numbers sufficient to accommodate the registered voters assigned to each early voting location. All distribution, use, and return of ballots shall be documented to preserve chain of custody.

SECTION 5. EARLY VOTING PRACTICES.

(A) The use of extended or indefinite early voting periods shall span no more than seven (7) days, or that begin earlier than [X] days before Election Day..

(B) Mobile, traveling, or temporary voting centers that are not permanent or designated early voting locations shall not be utilized..

(C) The use of "ballot-on-demand" printing systems for in-person early voting or Election Day voting shall not be used, except as specifically authorized for emergency replacement ballots under rules adopted by the [Chief Election Official] for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

SECTION 6. TREATMENT OF EARLY VOTING AS ELECTION DAY VOTING.

(A) For purposes of application of election statutes, including but not limited to procedures for observers, challenges, and chain-of-custody requirements, all in-person early voting shall be treated as Election Day voting.

(B) Observers shall be afforded substantially the same rights to observe in-person early voting as they have to observe in-person voting on Election Day.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including standards for early voting sites, hours, and chain-of-custody documentation.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to all elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 2: Neighborhood Precinct-Based Voting Restoration Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Neighborhood Precinct-Based Voting Restoration Act."

SECTION 2. PRECINCT-BASED VOTING FOR ELECTION DAY AND EARLY VOTING.

(A) All in-person Election Day voting shall occur at physical precinct polling places to which voters are assigned based on their residential address.

(B) All in-person early voting shall be conducted using ballot styles, voter lists, and chain-of-custody procedures that maintain the precinct assignment of each voter, so that every early ballot is issued, recorded, stored, and reported back to the voter's home precinct.

(C) Voters shall cast in-person Election Day ballots only at the polling place for the precinct in which they reside, except as otherwise provided by law for provisional or emergency ballots.

(D) During any in-person early voting period, counties may consolidate physical locations for administrative efficiency, but each voter shall be processed and recorded under the voter's home precinct, with ballots packaged, transported, tabulated, and reported by precinct.

SECTION 3. PRECINCT SIZE AND SHARED LOCATIONS.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish precinct-size standards to ensure that all assigned voters can reasonably be served during early voting and on Election Day without excessive wait times or capacity issues. As a guideline, each precinct should serve approximately 1,500 eligible voters, or such

other number, as necessary to maintain efficient processing and accessibility.

(B) If multiple precincts share a single physical location for early voting or Election Day voting, election officials shall:

(1) Provide clearly separated check-in processes (including separate paper pollbooks) for each precinct, or a system that assigns each voter's ballot and record to the correct precinct at the time of check-in;

(2) Maintain distinct ballot styles, ballot boxes or containers, and chain-of-custody logs for each precinct; and

(3) Ensure that ballots, ballot images, and results are not commingled across precincts, and that each ballot can be attributed to the correct precinct for reconciliation and audit.

SECTION 4. USE OF VOTE CENTERS AND CENTRALIZED IN-PERSON VOTING.

(A) A county or local jurisdiction shall not replace neighborhood precinct polling places with county-wide or jurisdiction-wide vote centers that allow any voter to cast a ballot at any location without preserving the voter's assignment to a specific precinct, except as explicitly authorized by statute for emergencies.

(B) Any existing authorization for "convenience voting centers," "county-wide polling places," or similar models is repealed or amended to the extent that it:

(1) Allows voters to cast in-person ballots that are not assigned to a specific precinct; or

(2) Results in ballots being tabulated or reported only at a central or county-wide level without precinct-level reconciliation and reporting.

SECTION 5. PRECINCT-LEVEL TABULATION, REPORTING, AND CHAIN OF CUSTODY.

(A) Ballots cast in each precinct, whether during early voting or on Election Day, shall be kept as a distinct unit for purposes of tabulation, reconciliation, and audit.

(B) Where tabulation equipment is deployed at polling places, ballots shall be scanned and reported by precinct; where ballots are transported to a central tabulation location, they shall remain clearly identified and segregated by precinct, with separate containers, logs, and results for each precinct.

(C) Official and unofficial election results shall be reported by precinct, and precinct-level results shall be made available to the public as soon as practicable after tabulation.

(D) Each precinct shall maintain its own list of voters, ballot inventory, and chain-of-custody documentation, including reconciliation of ballots issued, spoiled, unused, and counted, for all early voting days and Election Day.

SECTION 6. OBSERVERS AND TRANSPARENCY.

(A) Observers shall be permitted to observe precinct-level voting, closing procedures, and the sealing of ballot containers, consistent with protection of ballot secrecy and orderly conduct of the polls.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] may adopt rules governing observer access that ensure meaningful observation without disruption of voting.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including standards for precinct boundaries, shared polling locations, and precinct-level tabulation.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting

provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and each county or local jurisdiction shall adjust precinct boundaries and polling place assignments to comply with this Act no later than [election cycle].

Model Law 3: Absentee Voting Qualification and Election Night Reporting Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Absentee Voting Qualification and Election Night Reporting Act."

SECTION 2. EXCUSE-REQUIRED ABSENTEE VOTING ELIGIBILITY.

(A) No-excuse absentee voting is repealed. Absentee voting shall be permitted only for voters who meet one or more of the following verifiable categories:

(1) Active-duty members of the armed forces of the United States and their eligible family members stationed away from their residence;

(2) United States citizens residing temporarily or permanently outside the United States;

(3) Voters with a disability or medical condition that prevents in-person attendance at the polls during the early voting period and on Election Day;

(4) Voters who will be absent from the jurisdiction during the entire early voting period and on Election Day due to work, education, or other necessary travel; or

(5) Other bona fide hardships specified by statute or by rule of the [Chief Election Official], attested to under penalty of perjury.

(B) An applicant for an absentee ballot shall specify the qualifying excuse on the absentee ballot application, and election officials shall verify eligibility before issuing an absentee ballot.

SECTION 3. UNSOLICITED PRE-POPULATED APPLICATIONS FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS PROHIBITED.

(A) No individual, group, or party shall provide to a voter or 'resident' an absentee ballot application containing information pre-populated or pre-filled by the third party. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit a state or local election authority from assisting an individual voter in completing an application for an absentee ballot.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly distribute an absentee ballot application to a voter which is prefilled with the voter's name or any other information required on the application form.

(C) Assistance in the completion of any absentee ballot application is prohibited unless expressly requested or authorized by the voter, seeking the assistance from an immediate relative or a state or local election official.

(D) Violations involving the payment by a third-party to prepare and pre-fill or pre-populate voter information in an absentee ballot application, unless specifically requested as described in this section, shall be punishable as a Class C felony.

SECTION 4. RETURN AND DELIVERY OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

(A) Absentee ballots shall be returned only by:

(1) United States Postal Service mail;

(2) Commercial or courier delivery services; or

(3) Hand-delivery by the voter, an immediate family member, or a designated caregiver.

(B) Any person other than the voter who hand-delivers an absentee ballot shall sign a delivery affidavit under penalty of perjury, stating the person's name, address, relationship to the voter, and a certification that the ballot was not altered or coerced.

(C) There shall not be any use of unattended absentee ballot drop boxes for the return of absentee ballots.

(D) There shall not be any use of permanent or ongoing absentee voter lists that automatically mail ballots to voters for future elections without a new request and verification.

SECTION 5. VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY AND PROHIBITION ON SAME-DAY REGISTRATION.

(A) No ballot may be processed or counted unless the voter's identity, citizenship, residency, and registration status have been fully verified under state law and matched to the voter registration record.

(B) Same-day or Election Day voter registration shall not be utilized in any circumstances.

(C) Voter registration shall close not less than [X] days before the first day of early voting or [Y] days before Election Day, whichever is earlier, to allow election officials to complete verification of eligibility, residency, and citizenship for all applicants.

(D) No on-site registration additions shall occur during any voting period. All registrations must be submitted to and processed by election offices or driver's license agencies before the (State) registration deadline.

(E) Provisional or emergency registration mechanisms that bypass advance verification requirements on or near Election Day may not be validated.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC PROCESSING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

(A) All steps of absentee ballot processing—including receipt, logging, envelope inspection, identity and eligibility verification, opening of envelopes, and preparation for tabulation—shall occur in public, at designated locations, with meaningful observation by representatives of political parties, candidates, and civic organizations.

(B) Election officials shall establish designated public areas or procedures that allow observers to view absentee ballot processing at a distance that permits meaningful observation without compromising ballot secrecy.

(C) Election officials shall maintain detailed chain-of-custody logs for absentee ballots and, where feasible, video record the processing of absentee ballots. Such records shall be public records, subject to inspection under [State Public Records Law], consistent with protection of ballot secrecy.

SECTION 7. RECEIPT DEADLINE AND PROHIBITION ON BALLOT CURING.

(A) To be counted, all absentee ballots, including ballots from military and overseas voters, must be physically received by the appropriate election office no later than the close of polls on Election Day.

(B) Absentee ballots received after the close of polls on Election Day shall not be counted, regardless of postmark or mailing date. No grace periods, postmark rules, or late-arrival allowances shall apply.

(C) Post-election "curing" of absentee or mail ballots for defects such as missing or mismatched signatures, missing identification, or incomplete information is prohibited.

(D) Election officials may notify voters of deficiencies identified before Election Day to allow the voter to correct the issue or vote in person, but no deficiencies may be cured after the close of polls on Election Day.

SECTION 8. ADVANCE PROCESSING AND ELECTION NIGHT TABULATION.

(A) Election officials may begin verifying and processing absentee ballots upon receipt, including:

(1) Confirming voter registration status and eligibility;

(2) Verifying identity, citizenship, and residency;

(3) Validating any required excuse for absentee voting; and

(4) Inspecting envelopes for compliance with statutory requirements.

(B) Verified absentee ballots shall be securely stored in sealed containers with documented chain-of-custody until tabulation begins.

(C) No absentee ballot may be tabulated or counted before the opening of polls on Election Day.

(D) No partial or preliminary results from absentee ballot tabulation shall be reported to the public or to candidates until after the close of polls on Election Day.

(E) Verified absentee ballots shall be included in precinct-level tabulation and reported with in-person early and Election Day votes on Election Night.

(F) Once tabulation of ballots has commenced on Election Day, counting shall continue without interruption until completed.

SECTION 9. PUBLIC REPORTING OF ABSENTEE BALLOT VOLUMES.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall publicly announce, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day before Election Day, the total number of absentee ballots, including ballots for military and overseas voters, that have been issued by all election jurisdictions in the State.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall publicly announce, no later than midnight on Election Night, the total number of absentee ballots received by all election jurisdictions as of the close of polls and remaining to be tabulated.

(C) Unofficial election results shall be published and reported as soon as tabulation is completed after the close of polls on Election Day, together with a report of any absentee ballots remaining to be counted.

SECTION 10. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR VULNERABLE AND HOMELESS VOTERS.

(A) The State shall establish procedures to protect the voting rights of:

(1) Homeless individuals;

(2) Residents of medical or rehabilitation facilities and hospitals;

(3) Residents of group homes for persons with mental disabilities who are not adjudicated mentally incapacitated; and

(4) Residents of facilities for elderly citizens.

(B) The State shall not allow any person, group, or organization from exerting undue influence or effectively capturing the ballots of mentally incapacitated individuals, residents of memory-care units, or other vulnerable voters.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish a program of special voting deputies to deliver absentee ballots to residents of the facilities described in subsection (A). Each bipartisan or multipartisan team of special voting deputies shall:

(1) Deliver ballots to eligible residents and provide assistance and instructions without advising on

candidate or ballot-measure choices;

(2) Review the photo identification or other eligibility documents required under state law for each voter;

(3) Observe the voter's insertion of the completed ballot into a security envelope and deposit the envelope into a secure ballot container that may not be opened by team members; and

(4) Return the secured container to the election office.

(D) Special voting deputies shall maintain chain of custody for each ballot issued and returned and shall complete a log documenting each step in the process.

(E) Homeless voters may register and vote in person at an election office or designated government facility, but not at advocacy centers or homeless shelters, in order to minimize undue influence by any political party or advocacy organization.

SECTION 11. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to all elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 4: Vulnerable Voter Protection and Special Voting Deputies Act (Redline)

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS

As used in this Act:

(A) "Homeless individual" means a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and

who is otherwise eligible to register and vote under state law using a description of location or mailing address permitted by law.

(B) "Vulnerable voter" means an otherwise qualified elector who resides in a long-term care facility,

memory-care unit, hospital, rehabilitation facility, group home, or similar congregate care setting, or who is substantially dependent on others for daily care or decision-making support.

(C) "Undue influence" means conduct that interferes with a voter's free and independent exercise of the franchise, including coercion, intimidation, deception, remuneration, or improper pressure regarding whether or how the voter votes.

(D) "Ballot interference" means the improper voter registration, possession, handling, marking, alteration, destruction, concealment, transfer, or return of another person's ballot or ballot materials in a manner not authorized by law.

SECTION 2. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Vulnerable Voter Protection and Special Voting Deputies Act."

SECTION 3. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to protect the voting rights of vulnerable eligible voters while preventing undue influence, vote theft, or ballot harvesting in facilities and settings where voters may be dependent on others for care or housing.

SECTION 4. PROTECTED VOTER CLASSES AND FACILITIES.

(A) The protections of this Act apply to the following eligible voters:

(1) Homeless individuals;

(2) Residents of medical or rehabilitation facilities and hospitals;

(3) Residents of group homes for persons with mental disabilities who are not adjudicated mentally incapacitated; and

(4) Residents of facilities for elderly citizens, including nursing homes, assisted living, and memory-care units.

(B) For purposes of this Act, "facility" means any institution, residence, or program that houses or provides ongoing care to the voters described in subsection (A)(2)–(4).

SECTION 5. PROHIBITION ON UNDUE INFLUENCE AND VOTE THEFT.

(A) No person, organization, or entity may:

(1) Coerce, pressure, or unduly influence a protected voter's choices on any ballot;

(2) Complete or alter a ballot for a protected voter except as lawful assistance requested by the voter and provided in the voter's presence; or

(3) Collect or return ballots from protected voters in a manner that circumvents the procedures established in this Act.

(B) No person, group, or organization shall exert undue influence over, or engage in ballot interference regarding, the registration of a protected voter without the voter's express permission.

(C) Persons who reside in memory-care units, or who have been adjudicated incompetent or mentally incapacitated by a court, shall not be subjected to pressure regarding voter registration or voting.

(D) Any violation of this section shall be subject to civil penalties, and knowing or intentional violations may be prosecuted as election offenses under [State Election Code citation].

SECTION 6. SPECIAL VOTING DEPUTIES PROGRAM.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish a program of Special Voting Deputies (SVDs) to administer absentee voting for residents of facilities described in Section 4(A)(2)–(4).

(B) Special Voting Deputies shall serve in bipartisan or multipartisan teams of two or more individuals appointed from lists submitted by the major political parties and other qualifying organizations, as provided by rule.

(C) Special Voting Deputies shall receive training on:

(1) Voter eligibility and identification requirements;

(2) Permissible and impermissible forms of voter assistance;

(3) Confidentiality and ballot-secrecy protections; and

(4) Chain-of-custody procedures for ballots and related materials.

SECTION 7. DUTIES OF SPECIAL VOTING DEPUTIES.

(A) When administering absentee voting in a facility, Special Voting Deputies shall:

(1) Deliver absentee ballots to eligible residents;

(2) Provide neutral instructions on how to mark and return the ballot;

(3) Provide assistance to a voter only at the voter's request and without suggesting or advocating choices for any candidate or ballot measure;

(4) Review the photo identification or other eligibility documents required under state law for each voter;

(5) Observe each voter insert the completed ballot into the security envelope and place the envelope into an official ballot container that may not be opened by the deputies; and

(6) Return the sealed ballot container, along with required logs and forms, directly to the election office.

(B) Special Voting Deputies shall not:

(1) Mark a ballot for a voter unless the voter is physically unable to do so and expressly directs the deputy how to mark the ballot;

(2) Pre-select candidates or ballot-measure positions on any ballot; or

(3) Remove unvoted ballots from the facility except as required to account for spoiled or unused ballots in chain-of-custody records.

SECTION 8. CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY AND DOCUMENTATION.

(A) Special Voting Deputies shall maintain a written log documenting:

(1) The date and time of their visit to each facility;

(2) The names of all voters to whom ballots were issued;

(3) Whether each voter cast a ballot, declined to vote, or was unavailable;

(4) The number of ballots issued, spoiled, unused, and returned; including the disposition of each spoiled or unused ballot;

(5) The time and manner in which completed ballots and materials were returned to the election office.

(B) The ballot container used in each facility shall be sealed and labeled with the facility name, date, and the names of the Special Voting Deputies responsible for the container.

(C) Logs and related documentation shall be retained as part of the election record and made available for inspection and audit under [State Election Code / public records law], consistent with voter-privacy protections.

SECTION 9. VOTING PROCEDURES FOR HOMELESS VOTERS.

(A) Homeless voters shall be permitted to register and vote in person at an election office or other government facility designated by the [Chief Election Official].

(B) Homeless voters shall not be required or permitted to register or vote at an advocacy center, homeless shelter, nonprofit office, or partisan organization's office, unless expressly designated for that purpose under state law, in order to minimize potential undue influence and to preserve neutrality in the voting environment.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] may adopt rules allowing homeless voters to use a descriptive location or shelter address for residency purposes, consistent with state law, while still requiring registration and voting to occur at a neutral government location.

SECTION 10. RULEMAKING AND ENFORCEMENT.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including:

(1) Appointment and training of Special Voting Deputies;

(2) Scheduling of facility visits; and

(3) Standards for access, observation, and security within facilities.

(B) Any person who knowingly violates any provision of this Act, including engaging in undue influence as defined in Section 1(C), ballot interference as defined in Section 1(D), or failing to comply with procedures established under Sections 6–9, shall be guilty of a [Class A misdemeanor / felony] and, upon conviction, subject to the penalties provided under [insert relevant state election crimes statute, e.g., "the State's election fraud statutes"].

(C) Violations involving multiple voters, a vulnerable voter, or a pattern of conduct shall constitute a felony.

(D) In addition to criminal penalties, the [chief state election official / Attorney General] may impose civil penalties of up to [$5,000] per violation and may disqualify any ballot or group of ballots affected by proven undue influence or interference after notice and opportunity to be heard.

(E) Facility administrators, caregivers, election officials, and any other person with knowledge of a suspected violation shall report it promptly to the [state election authority or Attorney General]. Failure to report may result in administrative sanctions.

(F) This Act does not limit any other civil or criminal remedies available under state or federal law.

SECTION 11. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) This Act shall be codified in [Title , Chapter of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(B) This Act shall take effect on [date], and the Special Voting Deputies program shall be operational no later than [first statewide election date] following the effective date.

Model Law 5: Residential Facility Voter Access and Ballot Tracking Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Residential Facility Voter Access and Ballot Tracking Act."

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(A) "Authorized representative" means a person designated in writing by the resident, or a legal guardian, conservator, or agent acting under a valid power of attorney, to the extent permitted by state law.

(B) "County election official" means the [county election commission/board of elections/county clerk or equivalent local election authority].

(C) "Residential facility" means a licensed nursing home, memory-care center, assisted living facility, adult residential facility, or residence serving adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

(D) "Ballot event" means a registration application or change; a ballot request; or the issuance, delivery, collection, return, receipt, challenge, cure, acceptance, rejection, or counting of a ballot.

(E) "Source" means the person, entity, or system that initiated, requested, handled, entered, or recorded a ballot event.

SECTION 3. RESIDENT RIGHTS AND FACILITY DUTIES

(A) A residential facility shall ensure that each resident may exercise voting rights without interference,

coercion, discrimination, or reprisal, consistent with 42 C.F.R. § 483.10 and any successor regulation. A facility shall provide reasonable access to registration materials, ballot-request materials, lawful voting assistance, and election information when requested by a resident.

(B) A facility and its officers, employees, contractors, volunteers, and agents shall not:

(1) register a resident or request a ballot without the resident's knowledge and consent, except as otherwise expressly authorized by law;

(2) complete, mark, alter, collect, return, or cause the return of a ballot without lawful authority;

(3) pressure, threaten, reward, induce, or otherwise attempt to influence a resident to register, not register, vote, not vote, request a ballot, decline to request a ballot, or vote in a particular manner; or

(4) interfere with a resident's decision not to register or vote.

(C) A resident who requests assistance may select any person permitted by law to assist, including an authorized representative. Facility staff may assist only at the resident's request and as permitted by law.

(D) A facility not subject to federal Medicare or Medicaid resident-rights rules shall comply with this section as a matter of state law.

SECTION 4. VOTING AT RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

(A) Each county election official shall provide voting access to residential facilities through one of the following methods. A state may require one method statewide or permit local election officials to choose.

Option A: Facility Voting Site.

(1) The county election official shall send at least two trained election deputies, representing different political parties where practicable, to conduct in-person voting at the facility under early-voting procedures.

(2) The facility shall provide the county election official a current resident list for

election-administration purposes at least [number] days before an election and shall promptly report the death or permanent departure of a registered resident.

(3) The election deputies shall visit at least [two] times before each election and provide an accessible, private voting area.

Option B: Facility Voting Coordinator.

(1) The facility shall designate a voting coordinator and provide the coordinator's contact information to the county election official.

(2) At a resident's request, the coordinator may provide neutral information, registration or ballot-request forms, envelopes, postage, transportation, and other lawful logistical assistance.

(3) The coordinator shall not solicit ballot requests, influence a resident's voting decision, or handle a ballot except as otherwise permitted by law.

(B) Under either option, a facility shall not delay, open, redirect, withhold, or otherwise interfere with election mail addressed to a resident except as authorized by the resident or required by law.

SECTION 5. PUBLIC TRACKING AND AUDIT RECORD

(A) The county election official shall maintain a publicly available Residential Facility Voter Tracking Record for each residential facility.

(B) For each registered voter residing at the facility, the record shall state:

(1) the voter's name and facility name;

(2) the date and time of each ballot event;

(3) the method and source of each ballot event;

(4) the name and role of each person who assisted with, requested, transmitted, delivered, collected, handled, or returned a ballot or ballot-request form;

(5) whether the ballot was requested, issued, received, challenged, cured, accepted, rejected, or counted; and

(6) the general reason and deadline for any cure requirement or rejection.

(C) The county election official shall create and retain an audit record for every ballot event showing the date and time, source, action taken, election official or system recording the event, and disposition of any correction, cure, or investigation.

(D) The tracking record shall be available for public inspection and copying, searchable online by facility and voter name, and updated within [one] business day after each ballot event. Tracking and audit records shall be retained for at least [number] months after the relevant election.

(E) The public tracking record and audit record shall not reveal a resident's diagnosis, medical condition, care level, protected personal identifiers, legal-capacity finding, or ballot choices.

SECTION 6. NOTICE, REPORTS, AND ENFORCEMENT

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall maintain a free online tool showing ballot status. A resident may designate an authorized representative in writing to receive ballot-status notices.

(B) Within [number] hours after a ballot is requested, issued, received, challenged, requires cure, is accepted, is rejected, or is counted, the county election official shall give electronic notice to the resident and any designated authorized representative. The notice shall state the date and time of the event and, if cure or review is available, the general reason, deadline, and available procedure.

(C) If electronic notice cannot reasonably be received, the facility shall provide written notice to the resident and designated representative, if any, within [one] business day after receiving notice of a ballot request, challenge, cure requirement, rejection, or other material ballot-status event. The attempted delivery of written notice shall be recorded.

(D) A resident, family member, designated caregiver, authorized representative, ombudsman, election observer, or other person may report an apparent unauthorized, inaccurate, or improper ballot event to the county election official or [Chief Election Official].

(E) The county election official shall promptly investigate a credible report, document the disposition, and correct an erroneous or unauthorized record when appropriate. A person may use any challenge or remedy available under [cross-reference to the Homeless and Vulnerable Voter Model Law and state voter-eligibility and challenge statutes]. This Act creates no new eligibility or legal-capacity standard.

(F) A person who knowingly coerces a resident, acts without lawful authority with respect to a resident's registration or ballot, or knowingly falsifies, conceals, destroys, or alters a required record commits [offense class] and is subject to other remedies provided by law. A facility's violation does not, by itself, invalidate the ballot of an otherwise eligible resident.

SECTION 7. RULES AND EFFECTIVE DATE

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may adopt rules necessary to implement this Act.

(B) This Act takes effect on [date].

Appendix B.3 – Restore Election Day, Qualify Absentee Voters, Results on Election Night

SHORT, FOCUSED EARLY-VOTING MODELS

- **Kentucky in-person absentee (3 days).** https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=51074
- **Oklahoma in-person absentee (3–5 days).** https://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=435047
- **Louisiana early voting (7 days).** https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=81354
- **Missouri – RSMo § 115.279(2) (effective 2022):** "Notwithstanding section 115.284, no individual, group, or party shall solicit a voter into obtaining an absentee ballot application. Absentee ballot applications shall not have the information prefilled prior to it being provided to a voter. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit a state or local election authority from assisting an individual voter."
- **Alabama – Code of Alabama § 17-11-4(b)(2):** "It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly distribute an absentee ballot application to a voter which is prefilled with the voter's name or any other information required on the application form." Violations involving payment or third-party prefilling can rise to a Class C felony.
- **South Dakota – SDCL § 12-19-1.3:** "No person may distribute an absentee ballot application to a voter that is prefilled with the voter's name and registration address." (With limited exceptions for authorized assistance and election officials assisting upon voter request.)
- **Georgia – O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381(a)(1)(C)(ii) (as amended by SB 202, 2021; upheld by federal court in 2025):** Prohibits any person or entity (other than certain authorized relatives or assistants) from sending an elector an absentee ballot application that is prefilled with the elector's required information. The court recognized that prefilled applications "sparked confusion and concern about voter fraud, especially when the prefilled information was incorrect."

RESEARCH AND COMMENTARY

- **White House Executive Order 14248** – "Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections." https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/preserving-and-protecting-the-integrity-of-american-elections/
- **Heritage** – "The Costs of Early Voting." https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity/report/the-costs-early-voting#_ftnref1
- **Burden et al., "Election Laws, Mobilization, and Turnout"** (AJPS, 2014). http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ajps.12063/full
- **U.S. Election Project** – turnout data. http://www.electproject.org/home/voter-turnout/voter-turnout-data
- **Kontorovich & McGinnis** – "The Case Against Early Voting." http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2014/01/early-voting-the-case-against-102748
- **Honest Elections Project** – 2024 reform report (early/mail sections). https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/HEP_2024-Election-Reform-Report_v4.pdf
- **Voting Integrity Institute** – early voting issue brief. https://votingintegrityinstitute.org/issues/early-voting/
- **Ballotpedia** – arguments on no-excuse absentee/mail-in voting. https://ballotpedia.org/

Arguments_for_and_against_no-excuse_absentee/mail-in_voting

- **Empire Center** – no-excuse mail-in voting in New York. https://www.empirecenter.org/publications/history-and-tradition-weigh-against-no-excuse-mail-in-voting-in-new-york/
- **Vulnerable Seniors in Nursing Homes 2024** - https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qssam-26-04-nh-original-r elease-2026-07-20.pdf
- **Letter from U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren, Alex Padilla, et al., to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Administrator Mehmet Oz regarding nursing home voting guidance** (August 12, 2026) - https://www.warren.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/Final-Letter-to-CMS-on-Nursing-Homes-Voting-Guidance.pdf
- **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Quality, Safety & Oversight Special Alert: Protecting the Voting Rights and Autonomy of Vulnerable Residents in Long-Term Care (LTC) Facilities** - https://www.cms.gov/medicare/health-safety-standards/quality-safety-oversight-general-information/quality-safety-special-alerts/protecting-voting-rights-autonomy-vulnerable-residents-long-term-care-ltc-facilities

GEORGIA-SPECIFIC MODEL ON DROP BOXES AND ABSENTEE SECURITY

- **Georgia S.B. 202 (2021)** – restricts no-excuse absentee voting expansions and ballot drop boxes (limited to one per 100,000 registered voters, indoors at early-voting sites only).

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - The Uniform Election Dates Act https://alec.org/model-policy/the-homeowners-right-to-choose-inspection-and-review-services-act-2/
  - Mail Voting Deadlines Act https://alec.org/model-policy/deadlines-for-mail-voting-act/
  - Deadline for Return and Receipt of all Ballots Act https://alec.org/model-policy/deadline-for-return-and-receipt-of-all-ballots-act/
- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Uniform Election Dates Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Uniform-Election-Dates-Act_v2.pdf

PRINCIPLE IV.

Confirm Citizenship, Identity, & Residency of All Voters, Rigorous Voter Roll Maintenance

Principle IV Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Compare Voter Registration Lists Against Citizenship Data, Confirm Identity and Residency of All Current Registrants

1. 1State and local election authorities shall conduct secure, documented, and regular comparisons of voter registration records with reliable, lawfully available information relevant to voter eligibility, identity, death, residence, or duplicate registration.
2. Authorized sources shall include governmental records relating to death, address changes, motor-vehicle licensing, court-ordered disqualification, and other eligibility information; interstate voter-registration comparison information; citizen-submitted documentation; and reliable third-party information lawfully obtained and used solely as a lead for review.3.
3. Information from a source that does not independently establish voter ineligibility—including commercial, proprietary, or probabilistic data—shall be treated as a lead for review and corroborated before an adverse action is taken.
4. Require confirmation of citizenship, identity, and residency for all existing registrants through ongoing database comparisons, with flags for mismatches triggering notice and opportunity to cure before removal
5. Election officials shall review credible information indicating a potential discrepancy in citizenship, identity, residence, eligibility, or duplicate registration. A data match or mismatch shall trigger documented review and, when required by law, notice and an opportunity to respond or cure before a voter's registration status is changed.
6. Utilize interstate data-sharing systems to verify residency changes and removal of registrants no longer residing at their registration addresses
7. The State may participate in a reliable interstate voter-registration comparison program or maintain substantially equivalent bilateral or regional data-sharing agreements, where authorized by law and available. An interstate match shall be treated as information for review, and each jurisdiction shall apply its own lawful procedures before changing a voter's registration status.
8. Require removal of any registrant who has relocated to another state and has registered and/or voted in another state after the date of registration in the original state's voter rolls.
9. When reliable information indicates that a registrant has moved to another state or is registered in another jurisdiction, election officials shall initiate the applicable confirmation, notice, and voter-list-maintenance procedures before cancellation or removal, consistent with federal and state law.
10. Require removal of any registration that was invalid under federal or state law as of the date of registration
11. Election officials shall investigate credible evidence that a registration was not valid when created and, if ineligibility is confirmed, shall take the action authorized by federal and state law after providing all required procedural protections.

B. Require Regular, Ongoing List Maintenance by All Jurisdictions

1. **Establish mandatory ongoing daily voter roll maintenance programs statewide and at local levels, replacing sporadic cleanups with routine, uniform processes to remove ineligible, deceased, non-resident, or unverified registrants.**
   a. The chief state election official and each local election authority shall maintain a regular, ongoing, uniform, nondiscriminatory, and documented voter-list-maintenance program. The program shall use established schedules, written procedures, and reliable information to identify records that require review, correction, confirmation, or lawful removal.

2. **Require all local jurisdictions to implement proactive list maintenance using available data sources on a regular basis, with written protocols and documented procedures and timelines for removal of duplicate, invalid, or other problematic registrations**

   a. Each local election authority shall implement state-prescribed list-maintenance procedures and timelines; shall document all referrals, reviews, notices, determinations, and actions; and shall report material compliance information to the chief state election official in the form and manner prescribed by law.

3. **All list maintenance procedures and implementation activities shall be public records that must be available to citizens at no cost.**

   a. List-maintenance procedures, aggregate activity reports, and records of final actions shall be available for public inspection and copying in accordance with applicable public-records, voter-registration, privacy, and confidentiality laws. Records containing personally identifiable information, protected-address information, security-sensitive information, or other confidential material shall be protected from disclosure as required by law.

4. **Election officials shall document all changes to a voter record and shall not overwrite the record of any voter but shall make a change and note the source and date of each change to a voter's record.**

   a. Election officials shall document every material change to a voter record without overwriting the prior record. The record shall identify the source, date and time, authorized user or system account, reason, and disposition of each change, consistent with the Technology Principle and applicable records-retention requirements.

5. **Election officials shall maintain an attributable, chronological record of each voter's registration-status history, including each change from active to inactive or from inactive to active; the date, source, reason, notice, response, and final disposition of the change; and the authorized user or system account responsible for the action.**

   a. Election officials shall maintain voting-participation history, including the method by which a voter was credited with participation in each election, as permitted by state law. For absentee or mail voting, the record shall document the ballot request, issuance, delivery or transmission, return, receipt, verification, acceptance or rejection, tabulation eligibility determination, and final disposition. Such records shall support reconciliation, audit, investigation, and enforcement but shall not disclose an elector's ballot selections or otherwise compromise ballot secrecy.
   b. A voting-history pattern, by itself, shall not be the sole basis for rejecting a ballot, changing a voter's registration status, or initiating an adverse action against a voter; however, it may be used as a factor supporting documented review under procedures established by law.

6. All election mail shall be sent to a voter via non-forwardable mail, and if it is returned undeliverable to the election office, election officials shall immediately send a follow-up post card notice also by non-forwardable mail to the voter advising that unless the voter notifies the election office within thirty (30) days of the date of the post card that the voter is still an eligible voter at the same registration address, the voter's status will be changed to inactive and shall be removed from the voter rolls pursuant to the provisions of applicable law.

    a. When election mail is returned as undeliverable or other reliable information indicates that a voter may have changed residence, election officials shall follow the notice, confirmation, waiting-period, and other voter-list-maintenance procedures required by applicable federal and state law before changing the voter's registration status or removing the voter from the list.

C. Repeal Blackout Periods for List Maintenance Under Federal and State Law

COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL TIMING AND DUE-PROCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR LIST MAINTENANCE

1. Eliminate or repeal statutory blackout periods for list maintenance: the 90-days preceding a federal election that are found in state law, state adopted that restrict or prohibit systematic removal of bad registrations
    a. Election officials shall conduct systematic voter-list-maintenance programs in compliance with the National Voter Registration Act and applicable state law, including restrictions governing systematic removals before a federal election.

2. Allow removal of invalid registrations at any time.

    a. Election officials shall take individualized actions authorized by federal and state law, including actions based on a voter's written request, death, criminal conviction, adjudication of incapacity, or a lawful correction to voter registration information, while observing all applicable procedural protections.

3. Congress should repeal the blackout periods on list maintenance.

    a. The State shall schedule systematic list-maintenance work early enough to allow thorough review, required notice, and lawful resolution before applicable pre-election deadlines.

4. The State should permit jurisdictions to act on documentary evidence of ineligibility (*e.g.*, citizenship mismatches from SAVE/DMV/SSA, death records, residency changes, declaration of mental incapacity, felony conviction, etc.) with no artificial timing restrictions, while preserving notice and due process requirements for removal of registrations

    a. Reliable information indicating possible ineligibility shall prompt timely review and, where appropriate, an individualized action permitted by law. A data match, database mismatch, or third-party record shall not by itself authorize cancellation or removal without the review, notice, confirmation, waiting period, or other procedure required by federal and state law.

5. Override conflicting federal or state provisions that impede rigorous, year-round maintenance to ensure rolls remain current and accurate.

    a. State law shall provide election officials sufficient authority and resources to maintain accurate voter registration lists throughout the year, consistent with federal law and constitutional protections.

6. Mandate notification procedures required under federal law to trigger commencement of timelines for removal of registrants who have moved to a different state.

    a. Election officials shall provide all notices required by federal and state law before a voter may be removed based on a change of residence or other address-related information.

D. Publish Qualified Voter List Before Election Day; and Publish the List of Who Voted Within Three (3) Days of an Election

1. Prior to commencement of voting in any election, election officials shall be required to publish or make publicly available at no cost a list of the registered voters eligible to vote in the election, which list shall include the current, verified registration information for each eligible voter.
    a. Before voting begins for an election, election officials shall make available, in accordance with state public-records law, a current list of registered voters eligible to vote in the election. The list shall include only information authorized for public disclosure and shall exclude personally identifiable information, protected-address information, security-sensitive information, and other confidential information.

2. Within three days of each election, election officials shall publish the complete list of all persons who voted in the election, which shall include the method in which the voter cast a ballot (in-person early, in person on Election Day, or absentee).

    a. Within the time prescribed by state law after each election, election officials shall make available voting-participation information, including the method by which a voter was credited with participation where authorized by state law. Publication shall not disclose ballot selections or otherwise compromise ballot secrecy.

E. Election Offices Must Accept Documentation of Bad Registrations from Citizens and Shall Act on Citizen Challenges

1. The election code shall establish procedures requiring election offices to accept and investigate citizen-submitted evidence or challenges documenting ineligible registrations (*e.g.*, non-citizens, duplicates, deceased, non-residents), with mandatory review and action by the election official.
    a. The election code shall establish clear, accessible procedures requiring election offices to receive, log, and investigate citizen-submitted documentation or challenges alleging that a registration may be inaccurate or ineligible. A submission shall include sufficient information to permit review and shall be evaluated under uniform procedures established by law.

2. The election code shall require processing and action on citizen challenges to a voter registration within thirty (30) days of receipt of a citizen challenge.

    a. Election officials shall acknowledge receipt of a challenge or submission and shall complete an initial review within [number] days, unless additional investigation is reasonably necessary. The election official shall document the disposition of the submission and any action taken.

3. The election code shall establish procedures for notice to the challenged registrant, with the opportunity to respond, and the procedures for removal of the registration if ineligibility is confirmed.

a. Before an adverse action is taken based on a citizen challenge, the election authority shall provide notice, an opportunity to respond, and all other procedural protections required by federal and state law. A challenge shall not, by itself, result in cancellation, removal, or a change in voter status.

4. The election code should provide simple mechanisms for citizens to submit documentation of invalidity of the registration (*e.g.*, affidavits, public records) without undue barriers or requirement of personal knowledge of the challenged registration or voter.

    a. The election code shall provide reasonable methods for a citizen to submit relevant documentation, including affidavits based on personal knowledge and reliable public records, without imposing unnecessary barriers. A citizen challenge shall be subject to safeguards against harassment, discrimination, mass unsupported submissions, and misuse of voter-registration information.

F. Institute Procedures for United States Postal Service and Drivers License Agencies to Notify Election Office of Registrants that have Moved

1. Require formal data-sharing agreements or notifications from USPS (*e.g.*, via National Change of Address, or other USPS datasets) to alert election offices of address changes or moves by registered voters.
    a. The chief state election official shall establish, where authorized by law and available, written agreements or documented procedures for receiving address-change or relocation information from the United States Postal Service, the State driver's license agency, and other authorized governmental data sources.

2. Mandate Driver's License Agency notifications or automated data feeds to election offices for registrants who update driver's license addresses, obtain new licenses, or indicate moves, triggering residency verification and potential list updates.

    a. Information received from an authorized data source indicating a possible address change shall trigger documented review and the notice, confirmation, and other procedures required by applicable federal and state law. The information shall not, by itself, authorize cancellation or removal.

3. Establish protocols for prompt action on move notifications, including notice to voters and removal if residency is no longer valid after notice to the voter.

    a. (a) Election officials shall promptly refer and review credible move information, provide timely notice to the voter when required, and complete any subsequent status change or removal only through procedures authorized by law.

G. Enact Penalties for Election Officials' Failure to Clean Voter Rolls, Retain Private Right of Action to Enforce

1. Impose civil or criminal penalties for election officials who fail to conduct required list maintenance, ignore verified ineligibility data, or negligently allow ineligible registrations to remain on the voter rolls.
    a. The chief state election official shall monitor compliance with voter-list-maintenance requirements, conduct periodic compliance reviews, issue written findings, and require

corrective-action plans when a state or local election authority fails to comply with applicable law, rule, or procedure.

2. Establish citizen standing for a private right of action for citizens to sue election officials or jurisdictions for non-compliance with list maintenance duties, seeking injunctive relief, mandamus, or damage and recovery of attorneys' fees and costs.

    a. State law shall provide appropriate administrative, contractual, or judicial remedies for material noncompliance, including corrective action, suspension of authority where authorized, referral to the appropriate state entity, mandamus, injunctive relief, or other remedies provided by state law. Any private right of action shall be drafted in accordance with the State's constitutional, sovereign-immunity, standing, notice, and venue requirements.

3. Ensure remedies are available for violations that undermine election integrity, including failure to act on citizenship/identity/residency and other disqualification of registration issues.

    a. Remedies shall be available for a material failure to perform mandatory list-maintenance duties or to comply with applicable notice, documentation, data-protection, or records-retention requirements.

H. List Maintenance Records Are Public Records, Even if Outsourced to Vendor

1. Classify all voter roll maintenance records, audits, cross-check results, challenge resolutions, and removal decisions as public records subject to disclosure to the public at no cost, including online accessibility.
    a. Records created, received, or maintained in connection with voter-list-maintenance activities, including records held by a contractor or vendor on behalf of an election authority, shall remain subject to applicable state public-records and records-retention laws. Disclosure shall protect personally identifiable information, protected-address information, confidential source information, security-sensitive information, and other information exempt from disclosure by law.

2. Apply public records laws uniformly, even when list maintenance duties are outsourced to vendors or third-party systems, in whole or in part, prohibiting exemptions based on third-party contractor status.

    a. State contracts for voter-list-maintenance services shall require vendors and contractors to preserve records, provide records promptly to the election authority upon request, and comply with applicable disclosure, retention, audit, and confidentiality requirements.

3. Mandate retention and public access to list maintenance documents and records for specified periods, enhancing citizen g oversight and challenges.

    a. States shall retain voter-list-maintenance records for the periods required by federal and state law and make nonconfidential records available for public inspection and copying as required by law.

I. Prohibit Sharing of DMV Data with Any 3rd Party or Nongovernmental Entity

1. Strictly prohibit disclosure or sharing of DMV data (including driver license records, REAL ID information, or residency indicators) with nongovernmental entities and/or third-party

organizations.

a. The State shall prohibit the disclosure, use, or redisclosure of driver's license, motor-vehicle, REAL ID, or related residency information except as authorized by applicable federal and state law, by a written data-sharing agreement, and for a lawful governmental election-administration purpose.

2. **Limit DMV data access to election officials and authorized federal/state agencies (*e.g.*, for SAVE, SSA cross-checks) under interagency agreements that shall be publicly available.**

   a. Access shall be limited to authorized election officials and other governmental entities with a lawful need to access the information. Each data-sharing agreement shall identify permitted uses, access controls, confidentiality requirements, retention and destruction requirements, audit rights, breach-notification obligations, and remedies for unauthorized use or disclosure.

3. **Enforce penalties for unauthorized sharing, transfer, or private use of DMV data.**

   a. The State shall provide administrative, contractual, civil, or criminal remedies, as authorized by state law, for unauthorized access, use, disclosure, transfer, or private exploitation of protected motor-vehicle information.

Model Laws for Principle IV. Confirm Citizenship, Identity, & Residency of All Voters, Rigorous Voter Roll Maintenance

Accurate voter rolls are the backbone of election administration and are essential to ensuring that only eligible citizens vote in the correct jurisdiction. This Principle provides Model Laws to verify the citizenship, identity, and residency of voters on an ongoing basis, to open voter-list data and maintenance activities to public scrutiny and citizen challenges, and to define clear duties, penalties, and privacy protections for officials who manage voter registration systems. Taken together, these measures support clean, up-to-date rolls while preserving transparency, due process, and respect for personal data.

Index – Model Laws for Principle IV: Voter Verification and List Maintenance

1. **Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act**

Establishes systematic, ongoing verification of citizenship, identity, and residency using federal, state, interstate, commercial, USPS, DMV, and other data sources, with notice-and-cure procedures, documented removals, repeal of blackout periods, and move notifications from USPS and DMV.

2. **Voter List Transparency and Citizen Challenge Act**

Requires publication and broad public access to who is registered and who voted, treats list-maintenance records as public, and creates clear procedures and timelines for citizen-initiated challenges to ineligible or inaccurate registrations.

3. **Election Official Accountability and DMV Data Privacy Act**

Defines election officials' duties to maintain accurate rolls, provides penalties and a private right of action for non-compliance, and sets strict limits and safeguards on the sharing and use of DMV data for election purposes.

4. Pre-Registration Eligibility Verification Act:

Ensures that all registrations utilize the tools as defined in those used in list maintenance in order to determine voter eligibility prior to an applicant's placement on the voter rolls.

5. Voter Registration Change Notice and Audit Act:

The purpose of this Act is to ensure that voters receive prompt notice of changes to their voter-registration records; that every change is traceable to an identified source and preserved in an auditable record.

Model Law 1: Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act."

SECTION 2. SYSTEMATIC VERIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP, IDENTITY, AND RESIDENCY FOR EXISTING REGISTRANTS.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall conduct systematic and recurring reviews of the statewide voter registration list to verify the citizenship, identity, and residency of all registered voters.

(B)The [Chief Election Official] and each local election official shall conduct secure, documented, and regular comparisons of voter registration records with reliable, lawfully available information relevant to voter eligibility, identity, death, residence, or duplicate registration. Authorized sources may include:

(1) Governmental records relating to death, address changes, motor-vehicle licensing, court-ordered disqualification, and other eligibility information;

(2) Interstate voter-registration comparison information, where authorized by law and available;

(3) Citizen-submitted documentation that contains sufficient information to permit review; and

(4) Reliable third-party information lawfully obtained and used solely as a lead for review.

(C) Information from a source that does not independently establish voter ineligibility, including commercial, proprietary, or probabilistic data, shall be treated as a lead for review and shall be corroborated before an adverse action is taken.

(D) Election officials shall review credible information indicating a potential discrepancy in citizenship, identity, residence, eligibility, or duplicate registration. A data match or mismatch shall trigger documented review and, when required by law, notice and an opportunity to respond or cure before a voter's registration status is changed.

SECTION 3. NOTICE, OPPORTUNITY TO CURE, AND REMOVAL.

(A) When credible information reviewed under Section 2 indicates that a registrant may be ineligible under federal or state law, the election official shall open a documented review and shall:

(1) Identify the source, date received, data elements compared, reviewer, and preliminary basis for the review;

(2) Corroborate information that does not independently establish ineligibility before taking an adverse action;

(3) Provide written notice to the registrant at the address on file, when notice is required by federal or state law, stating the basis for the potential ineligibility, the information relied upon, the steps available to respond or correct the record, and the applicable deadline;

(4) Provide the registrant the response period, confirmation procedure, waiting period, and other procedural protections required by federal and state law; and

(5) Not cancel or remove the registration solely on the basis of an initial data match, a commercial or probabilistic record, an interstate comparison, or a citizen submission that has not been reviewed and corroborated as required by law.

(B) The election official shall correct, confirm, place in the status authorized by law, cancel, or remove a registration only after completing the review and all notice, confirmation, waiting-period, and other procedures required by federal and state law. The official shall document the factual and legal basis, source information, notices, voter response or nonresponse, date, authorized user or system account, and final disposition in the voter's record.

(C) If the review establishes that the registrant remains eligible, the registration shall be maintained or restored to the status authorized by law, and the official shall promptly correct the record and document the final disposition.

(D) Election officials shall investigate credible evidence that:

(1) A registrant may have relocated to another state or may be registered in another jurisdiction;

(2) A registration may not have been valid when created under federal or state law; or

(3) A registrant's death, loss of eligibility, or change of residence may be established by reliable information. The election official shall take the action authorized by law only after completing the applicable procedures required by this section and other federal and state law.

SECTION 4. ONGOING, ROUTINE LIST MAINTENANCE.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish, administer, and enforce a statewide voter-list-maintenance program that is regular, ongoing, uniform, nondiscriminatory, documented, and sufficiently resourced to maintain accurate and current voter-registration lists. The program shall include:

(1) Recurring receipt, acquisition, and comparison of reliable information relevant to voter eligibility, identity, death, residence, duplicate registration, and record accuracy;

(2) Documented review and resolution of credible discrepancy information;

(3) Record correction, confirmation, notice, response, and removal procedures consistent with federal and state law;

(4) Secure data-handling, access-control, audit-log, records-retention, and quality-control requirements;

(5) Periodic statewide quality-assurance reviews and local compliance monitoring; and

(6) Required training, written procedures, reporting, and corrective-action measures.

(B) Each local election jurisdiction shall implement the statewide voter-list-maintenance program and shall comply with the schedules, written procedures, data-security standards, documentation requirements, reporting duties, and corrective-action requirements established by the [Chief Election Official]. Each local election jurisdiction shall:

(1) Perform documented review of duplicate, invalid, potentially ineligible, or inaccurate registration records;

(2) Process address and registration-status changes through procedures authorized by law;

(3) Document all referrals, reviews, notices, determinations, and actions;

(4) Ensure that personnel who initiate, approve, modify, cancel, or remove a voter-registration record complete the training required under this Act; and

(5) Report material compliance information to the [Chief Election Official] in the form and manner prescribed by law.

(C) All list-maintenance actions shall be documented in the voter registration system in a manner that preserves an attributable, chronological, and auditable record of:

(1) The prior data and updated data;

(2) The source, date and time, reviewer, authorized user or system account, reason, and legal basis for each change;

(3) Each notice provided, response received, review performed, determination made, and final disposition; and

(4) Any status change from active to inactive or inactive to active, including the source, reason, notice, response, and final disposition.

(D) The [Chief Election Official] shall adopt and maintain a statewide voter-list-maintenance manual that prescribes uniform standards for data reliability, matching thresholds, corroboration, review, notice, confirmation, waiting periods, status changes, cancellation or removal, audit trails, records retention, privacy, security, training, reporting, quality assurance, and corrective action.

(E) The [Chief Election Official] shall provide, or require, initial and periodic training for each state or local official, employee, contractor, or system administrator authorized to initiate, approve, modify, cancel, or remove a voter-registration record.

SECTION 5. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL TIMING AND DUE-PROCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR LIST MAINTENANCE.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] and each local election jurisdiction shall conduct voter-list-maintenance activities throughout the year. The timing and administration of any systematic program to remove registrants from the official list shall comply with applicable federal and state law, including restrictions governing systematic removals before a federal election. Compliance with such restrictions shall not excuse or delay any other list-maintenance activity required by this Act.

(B) Election officials shall continue year-round receipt and review of information; record correction; reconciliation; duplicate analysis; documentation; staff training; audit; quality assurance; and other voter-list-maintenance activities required by this Act. Election officials shall take individualized actions authorized by federal and state law, including action based on a voter's written request, death, criminal conviction, adjudication of incapacity, or lawful correction to voter-registration information, while observing all applicable procedural protections.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall schedule systematic list-maintenance work early enough to permit thorough review, required notice, applicable confirmation and waiting periods, and lawful resolution before any applicable pre-election deadline. Reliable information indicating possible ineligibility shall prompt timely documented review; however, a data match, database mismatch, or third-party record shall not, by itself, authorize cancellation or removal without the review and procedures required by federal and state law.

SECTION 6. USPS AND DRIVER'S LICENSE AGENCY NOTIFICATIONS OF ADDRESS CHANGES.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish, where authorized by law and available, written agreements or documented procedures for receiving address-change or relocation information from the United States Postal Service, the [State Driver's License Agency], and other authorized governmental data sources.

(B) Information received from an authorized data source that indicates a possible address change shall

trigger documented review and the notice, confirmation, waiting-period, and other voter-list-maintenance procedures required by applicable federal and state law. The information shall not, by itself, authorize cancellation or removal.

(C) Election officials shall promptly refer and review credible move information, provide timely notice to the voter when required, and complete any subsequent record correction, status change, cancellation, or removal only through procedures authorized by law.

SECTION 7. INTERSTATE DATA-SHARING FOR RESIDENCY CHANGES.

(A) The State is authorized and encouraged to participate in a reliable interstate voter-registration comparison program or maintain substantially equivalent bilateral or regional data-sharing agreements, where authorized by law and available. The [Chief Election Official] shall establish written standards governing use, review, security, retention, and documentation of information received through any such program or agreement.

(B) An interstate match shall be treated as information for review. Each election jurisdiction shall apply the confirmation, notice, response, waiting-period, and other procedures required by federal and state law before changing a voter's registration status. When reliable information indicates that a registrant has moved to another state or is registered in another jurisdiction, election officials shall initiate the applicable procedures under Section 3.

SECTION 8. RECORDS AND COORDINATION.

(A) All list-maintenance procedures, implementation activities, and material changes to voter-registration records under this Act shall be recorded in the voter-registration system in a manner that permits reconstruction of the history of each voter's record and supports audit, investigation, compliance review, and enforcement. Access to records shall be controlled to protect personally identifiable information, protected-address information, security-sensitive information, confidential-source information, and other information protected from disclosure by law.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall coordinate with authorized federal, state, and local agencies and shall issue statewide guidance to ensure that voter-list-maintenance activities are conducted consistently with applicable federal and state law, including the National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act. Such coordination and guidance shall not excuse or delay any maintenance activity otherwise required by this Act.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall conduct periodic statewide compliance reviews, issue written findings, and require corrective-action plans when a state or local election authority fails to comply with applicable law, rule, procedure, training, documentation, data-protection, or records-retention requirements.

(D) Each election jurisdiction shall retain records created or received under this Act for the period required by federal and state law. Nonconfidential records shall be available for public inspection and copying in accordance with applicable public-records law. Records maintained by a contractor or vendor on behalf of an election authority shall remain subject to applicable disclosure, retention, audit, and confidentiality requirements.

SECTION 9. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including:(1) Standards for data matching and reliability;

(1) Standards for data reliability, matching thresholds, corroboration, secure data handling, access control, and information-sharing agreements;

(2) Notice content, confirmation procedures, response periods, waiting periods, status changes,

cancellation, and removal;

(3) Requirements for audit logs, records retention, privacy, confidentiality, and protection of ballot secrecy;

(4) Statewide written procedures, training, certification, reporting, quality assurance, compliance review, and corrective action; and

(5) Public access to nonconfidential records consistent with applicable public-records, voter-registration, privacy, and confidentiality laws.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date]. The [Chief Election Official] shall issue the statewide voter-list-maintenance manual, rules, procedures, training requirements, reporting forms, and compliance-review standards no later than [X] days after the effective date. Each local election jurisdiction shall complete initial implementation no later than [first statewide election date] and shall thereafter comply with the ongoing requirements of this Act.

Model Law 2: Voter List Transparency and Citizen Challenge Act (Transparency & citizen enforcement)

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Voter List Transparency and Citizen Challenge Act."

SECTION 2. PUBLICATION OF QUALIFIED VOTER LISTS.

(A) Prior to the commencement of voting in any election, the [Chief Election Official] or local election official shall publish, or otherwise make publicly available, a list of all registered voters eligible to vote in that election.

(B) The list shall include, for each eligible voter, the voter's name, precinct or district, registration status, and current verified registration address, together with any other nonconfidential data element prescribed by rule. The published list shall not include a voter's full date of birth, Social Security number or any part thereof, driver's license or state identification number, signature or signature image, telephone number, electronic mail address, declination to register, the identity of the agency at which the voter registered, an address protected under an address-confidentiality or participant-protection program, or any other information made confidential by federal or state law.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall, by rule, prescribe the data elements to be published, the redaction standards required by subsection (B), and a uniform statewide publication format. A record shall be published with lawful redactions rather than withheld in its entirety when redaction is sufficient to protect confidential information.

(D) The qualified voter list, as published under subsections (B) and (C), shall be:

(1) Posted online in a searchable format at no cost to the public;

(2) Available for inspection and copying at the election office during regular business hours, with no fee for on-site inspection and only the actual cost of copying for physical copies; and

(3) Provided electronically to any requesting person, if the list exists or can reasonably be produced in an electronic format, at no cost other than the actual cost of electronic media or transmission, if any.

(E) Publication under this section shall not be delayed, reduced, or suspended because a record requires

redaction, because a portion of the list is maintained by a vendor, or because a request is pending under [State Public Records Law].

SECTION 3. POST-ELECTION LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.

(A) Within three (3) calendar days after each election, the [Chief Election Official] or local election official shall publish a complete list of all persons who voted in the election.

(B) For each voter, the list shall indicate the method by which the voter cast a ballot, including:

(1) In-person early voting;

(2) In-person Election Day voting; or

(3) Absentee or mail voting.

(4) A provisional ballot, and whether the provisional ballot was counted, partially counted, or rejected.

The list shall include only the voter's name, precinct or district, and participation and method information authorized by this section and shall be subject to the confidentiality and redaction requirements of Section 2(B).

(C) The list of participants shall not reveal how any individual voted on any ballot item, and shall be made available online and at the election office at no cost for inspection, with only actual copying costs permitted for physical copies, and shall be provided electronically upon request on the same terms as set forth in Section 2(D)(3).

(D) No list, record, or report published under this Act shall identify the contents of any voter's ballot or be published in a manner that permits a ballot to be associated with an identifiable voter. The [Chief Election Official] shall establish safeguards for precincts, batches, or categories so small that publication could compromise ballot secrecy.

SECTION 4. CITIZEN-INITIATED CHALLENGES TO VOTER REGISTRATIONS.

(A) The election code shall provide procedures for any citizen of this State to submit evidence or a challenge regarding an ineligible or inaccurate voter registration, including but not limited to registrations for non-citizens, deceased persons, non-residents, duplicates, or otherwise ineligible voters. The [Chief Election Official] shall prescribe a uniform statewide challenge form and submission process that is available online and at each election office at no cost.

a. Each submission shall be in writing, signed by the submitting citizen, dated, and shall identify the challenged registrant with sufficient specificity to permit review, state the specific statutory ground asserted, and describe or attach the documentation relied upon.

(B) Citizen challenges may be supported by affidavits, public records, or other documentation, and shall not be rejected solely because the challenger lacks personal knowledge of the registrant.

(C) Upon receipt of a citizen challenge, the election official shall:

(1) Log the challenge in a challenge register that records the date of receipt, the submitting citizen, the challenged registration, the ground asserted, the documentation provided, the reviewer assigned, each action taken, and the final disposition;

(2) Acknowledge receipt in writing to the submitting citizen;

(3) Record the existence of the challenge and its disposition in the challenged registrant's registration file;

(4) Conduct a documented initial review to determine whether the submission states a ground recognized by law and contains information sufficient to permit review; and

(5) If the submission is sufficient, initiate review of the challenged registration under the review, corroboration, notice, confirmation, waiting-period, and removal procedures established in the Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act and applicable federal and state law.

(D) The election official shall process and resolve each citizen challenge within thirty (30) days of receipt, absent extraordinary circumstances documented in the record.

(F) A challenge, or group of challenges, whose purpose or effect is the systematic removal of registrants shall be received, logged, and reviewed at any time, and shall be acted upon in a manner consistent with applicable federal and state timing requirements governing systematic removal programs. The existence of any such timing restriction shall not excuse or delay the logging, acknowledgment, review, documentation, or resolution required by this section, or any individualized action authorized by law.

(G) A person who knowingly submits a challenge containing materially false information, or who submits challenges for the purpose of harassing or intimidating voters, shall be subject to the penalties provided by [State Election Code] and other applicable law.

(H) The [Chief Election Official] shall publish, not less than [quarterly/annually], a report stating the number of challenges received, the grounds asserted, the dispositions reached, and the average time to resolution, by jurisdiction, without disclosing information made confidential by law.

SECTION 5. NOTICE TO CHALLENGED REGISTRANTS AND RESOLUTION.

(A) When a registration is challenged, the election official shall provide written notice to the registrant, stating:

(1) The basis of the challenge;

(2) The evidence submitted; and

(3) The steps the registrant must take to confirm eligibility.

(4) The deadline for response, the address and methods by which a response may be submitted, and the consequences of failing to respond; and

(5) A statement that the registration will not be cancelled or removed except in accordance with applicable federal and state law.

(a) Notice shall be provided within [X] days of the determination that the challenge is sufficient for review, and shall be sent to the registrant's address on file and, where known, to any subsequent address of record. Information identifying a registrant whose address is protected under an address-confidentiality program shall be handled in accordance with that program.

(B) The registrant shall be given not less than [X] days to respond and provide documentation of eligibility, and in no event less than the response period, confirmation procedure, waiting period, or other procedural protection required by applicable federal or state law.

(C) If the registrant fails to respond or to provide satisfactory documentation, the election official shall place the registration in the status authorized by law and shall cancel or remove the registration only after completing every notice, confirmation, response, and waiting-period requirement imposed by applicable federal and state law. The election official shall document the factual and legal basis, the source information, each notice issued, any response received, the reviewer, the date, and the final disposition, and shall notify both the registrant and the challenger of the outcome.

(D) If the registrant provides satisfactory documentation, the registration shall be maintained or restored to active status, and a notation shall be made in the record resolving the challenge.

(E) No registration shall be cancelled or removed on the basis of a challenge alone. Cancellation or removal shall occur only on a ground authorized by law and only after the review and procedures required by this Act, the Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act, and applicable federal law.

SECTION 6. LIST-MAINTENANCE RECORDS AS PUBLIC RECORDS.

(A) All voter-roll maintenance records, including but not limited to:

(1) Data-matching results, including results from the Department of Homeland Security's SAVE or successor programs and from Social Security Administration death data;

(2) Removal and status-change logs;

(3) Challenge submissions and resolutions; and

(4) Audit and cross-check reports, are classified as public records and shall be subject to public inspection and copying under [State Public Records Law], consistent with protection of sensitive personal information, and shall include the challenge register, review documentation, notices issued, corrective-action records, training records, and vendor reports created or received under this Act.

(B) When list-maintenance duties are performed by vendors or third-party systems, all related records, data, reports, and logs shall be deemed public records of the election office and shall not be exempt from disclosure on the ground that they are held by a contractor. Each contract for such services shall require the vendor to create and preserve the records required by this Act, to deliver them to the election office on request and upon termination of the contract, to submit to audit, and to comply with the confidentiality, data-security, and records-retention requirements applicable to the election office. A claim of trade secret or proprietary interest shall not prevent disclosure of the results, criteria, standards, logs, or dispositions of list-maintenance activity.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall prescribe retention periods for list-maintenance records and ensure they are preserved for at least [X] years after each election. The retention period shall be not less than the period required by federal law, including the two-year retention and public-disclosure requirement applicable to records concerning the implementation of programs and activities for ensuring the accuracy and currency of official lists of eligible voters, and the twenty-two-month retention requirement applicable to federal election records.

(D) Public access to records under this section shall be provided without charge for on-site inspection or online access. Where records exist or can reasonably be produced in an electronic format, they shall be provided electronically upon request, with any fees limited to the actual, documented cost of reproduction or transmission.

(E) Disclosure under this section shall not include personally identifiable information, protected-address information, security-sensitive information about election systems or facilities, information identifying the agency through which a voter registered, information concerning a declination to register, or other information made confidential by federal or state law. A record containing such information shall be disclosed with lawful redactions rather than withheld in its entirety, and the election official shall state in writing the legal basis for each redaction.

(F) Nothing in this section authorizes the disclosure of information that would identify how any voter voted or otherwise compromise ballot secrecy.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall promulgate rules to implement this Act, including:

(1) Uniform statewide formats, data elements, and schedules for publication of voter lists and lists of participants;

(2) Uniform procedures, forms, logging, acknowledgment, review, documentation, notice, and disposition standards for citizen challenges;

(3) Standards for redacting confidential and security-sensitive information while preserving the broadest lawful public access;

(4) Standards for protecting ballot secrecy in published lists and reports;

(5) Records-retention, audit-log, data-security, and vendor-accountability requirements;

(6) Initial and periodic training for each official or employee who receives, reviews, or disposes of a challenge or who publishes a list under this Act; and

(7) Local reporting, compliance review, and corrective-action procedures.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply beginning with the first election held after that date. The [Chief Election Official] shall issue the rules, statewide challenge form, publication formats, redaction standards, training requirements, and reporting forms required by this Act no later than [X] days after the effective date, and each local election jurisdiction shall complete initial implementation no later than [first statewide election date].

Model Law 3: Election Official Accountability and DMV Data Privacy Act (Accountability & privacy)

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Election Official Accountability and DMV Data Privacy Act."

SECTION 2. DUTIES TO MAINTAIN ACCURATE VOTER ROLLS.

(A) Election officials shall have a mandatory duty to conduct list-maintenance activities as required by state and federal law and by [reference to Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act]. This duty includes compliance with the statewide voter-list-maintenance manual, written procedures, schedules, documentation standards, data-security requirements, training requirements, and reporting duties established under that Act.

(B) This duty includes promptly reviewing and acting on information of ineligibility, such as death records, non-citizenship, non-residency, disqualifying convictions, or adjudications of mental incapacity, within the time required by law and through the review, corroboration, notice, confirmation, waiting-period, and documentation procedures required by federal and state law. Information that does not independently establish ineligibility shall be corroborated before an adverse action is taken, and a registration shall not be cancelled or removed solely on the basis of a data match, commercial or probabilistic record, interstate comparison, or unverified third-party submission.

(C) Election officials have a corresponding duty to protect eligible registrants from erroneous removal. Failure to follow a required notice, confirmation, waiting-period, documentation, or recordkeeping procedure is a violation of this Act to the same extent as a failure to perform required maintenance.

(D) Each election official shall ensure that every employee, contractor, and system administrator authorized to initiate, approve, modify, cancel, or remove a voter-registration record completes the initial and periodic training required by law before exercising that authority.

(E) Each local election authority shall report to the [Chief Election Official], in the form and at the intervals prescribed by rule, on the performance of its list-maintenance duties, including volumes reviewed, notices issued, dispositions reached, corrections made, and any deficiency identified.

(F) Compliance with a timing restriction, procedural safeguard, or federal requirement shall not excuse or delay any list-maintenance duty imposed by this Act or by [reference to Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act].

SECTION 3. PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN VOTER ROLLS.

(A) An election official who knowingly or negligently fails to conduct required list-maintenance activities, refuses to act on information of ineligibility that has been reviewed and corroborated as required by law, fails to follow the notice, documentation, recordkeeping, training, or reporting requirements imposed by law, or systematically ignores list-maintenance duties, may be subject to:

(1) Administrative discipline under state personnel laws;

(2) Civil penalties of up to [$X] per violation or per day of continued non-compliance after the deadline stated in a written finding issued under subsection (B);

(3) Referral to the [Attorney General or appropriate prosecutor] for investigation of willful violations under existing election-law criminal provisions; and

(4) Any other remedy available under the constitution and laws of this State.

(B) Before a civil penalty is imposed, the [Chief Election Official or designated enforcement authority] shall issue a written finding identifying the duty at issue, the facts supporting the alleged violation, and the corrective action required, and shall provide the official not less than [X] days to respond and not less than [X] days to complete corrective action. Penalties shall be assessed for continued non-compliance after that period, for concealment or falsification of records, or for a repeated violation of the same duty. This subsection does not limit the authority of a court or of the [Attorney General] to act where delay would cause irreparable harm.

(C) Nothing in this section shall be construed to penalize good-faith errors made while reasonably implementing list-maintenance programs in compliance with state and federal law. This subsection does not protect an official who fails to document a required action, fails to complete or provide required training, fails to submit a required report, conceals or falsifies a record, or continues a violation after receiving a written finding and an opportunity to correct it.

(D) Where a registration has been cancelled, removed, or altered in violation of law, the election official shall promptly restore the record to the status authorized by law, notify the affected registrant in writing, document the correction and its cause, and report the correction to the [Chief Election Official]. The [Chief Election Official] shall determine whether the cause is systemic and, if so, require a statewide or jurisdiction-wide corrective-action plan.

(E) An employee or contractor who in good faith reports a violation of this Act, or who refuses to participate in an action that would violate this Act, shall not be discharged, demoted, disciplined, or otherwise retaliated against for that report or refusal.

SECTION 4. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION AND CITIZEN STANDING.

(A) Any citizen of this State, or group of citizens residing in this State, shall have standing to bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction against the [Chief Election Official], local election officials, or jurisdictions that fail to comply with their list-maintenance duties under state law. Standing under this section shall be conferred to the fullest extent permitted by the constitution of this State. A registrant whose registration has been cancelled, removed, or altered in violation of law shall likewise have standing to bring an action under this section.

This section is in addition to, and does not limit, any right of action available under federal law, including the civil-enforcement provisions of the National Voter Registration Act. Where a claim arises under federal law, the notice and waiting requirements of that law apply.

(B) Available remedies in such an action may include:

(1) Declaratory and injunctive relief;

(2) Writs of mandamus compelling performance of list-maintenance duties; and

(3) Reasonable attorneys' fees and costs for a prevailing plaintiff.

(4) An order compelling the restoration of a registration cancelled, removed, or altered in violation of law; and

(5) Any other remedy available under the constitution and laws of this State, subject to applicable sovereign-immunity and personal-immunity provisions, which each State may adapt to its own enforcement structure.

(C) Before filing an action under this section, a plaintiff shall provide written notice of the alleged violation to the official or jurisdiction and to the [Chief Election Official], and shall allow not less than [X] days for correction. Notice is not required where the violation is unlikely to be corrected before an imminent election, where the alleged violation involves the wrongful cancellation or removal of a registration, or where delay would cause irreparable harm.

(D) Courts shall give such actions priority on their dockets to ensure timely resolution before approaching elections where practicable.

(E) A court shall not order the cancellation or removal of any individual registration except upon a determination that the grounds and procedures required by federal and state law, including applicable notice, confirmation, and waiting-period requirements, have been satisfied as to that registrant.

SECTION 5. PROTECTION OF DMV DATA AND LIMITS ON SHARING.

(A) DMV data, including driver license and identification-card records, REAL ID information, and residency indicators, shall be used for election-administration purposes only by authorized election officials and agencies as necessary to verify voter eligibility. Access shall be limited to named, authorized users on a least-privilege basis, shall be individually attributable, and shall be logged.

(B) The disclosure, sharing, or transfer of DMV data to nongovernmental or private entities for voter-registration or list-maintenance purposes is prohibited, except as explicitly authorized by statute for narrowly tailored research or compliance purposes with appropriate privacy safeguards. A vendor performing election-administration services on behalf of an election authority may access DMV data only to the extent necessary to perform the contract, only under a written agreement meeting the requirements of subsection (C), and only where the vendor is prohibited from any secondary use, resale, retention beyond the contract, or disclosure to a subcontractor that has not agreed to the same terms.

(C) Inter-agency agreements for use of DMV data in elections shall:

(1) Be in writing and publicly available;

(2) Specify the permissible uses of the data;

(3) Prohibit secondary use or disclosure beyond election-administration and related legal compliance; and

(4) Require adequate data-security and confidentiality protections.

(5) Specify the data elements shared, limited to the minimum necessary for the authorized purpose;

(6) Establish retention schedules and require secure destruction or return of the data when the authorized purpose is complete;

(7) Provide audit rights, access logging, and periodic compliance review;

(8) Require notification to the disclosing agency, the [Chief Election Official], and affected individuals

in the event of a breach or unauthorized access, within the time required by [State Breach Notification Law]; and

(9) Prohibit the sale, licensing, or monetization of the data or of any derivative product.

A publicly available agreement may withhold only those specific provisions the disclosure of which would create a demonstrable security risk, and the redaction shall be identified and justified in writing.

(D) The [State Driver's License Agency] and the [Chief Election Official] shall maintain access logs for DMV data used for election purposes and shall conduct an audit of such access not less than annually. A summary of each audit, excluding security-sensitive details, shall be a public record.

(E) DMV data obtained for election purposes shall be treated as information for review. Such data shall not, by itself, authorize the cancellation or removal of a registration.

SECTION 6. PENALTIES FOR UNAUTHORIZED USE OR DISCLOSURE OF DMV DATA.

(A) Any person who knowingly and unlawfully discloses, transfers, or uses DMV data for purposes not authorized by this Act or other applicable law shall be subject to:

(1) Civil penalties of up to [$X] per record or per violation; and

(2) Any additional criminal penalties provided under state privacy or data-protection statutes.

(3) Administrative discipline under state personnel laws; and

(4) In the case of a vendor or contractor, suspension or termination of the contract and ineligibility for future contracts for a period of [X] years.

(B) An individual whose DMV data is unlawfully disclosed may bring a civil action for damages, injunctive relief, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. The agency or election authority responsible for the data shall notify each affected individual of an unauthorized disclosure within the time required by [State Breach Notification Law] and shall report the incident to the [Chief Election Official] and the [State Driver's License Agency].

SECTION 7. COORDINATION WITH FEDERAL AND STATE LAW.

(A) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit data-sharing required or expressly authorized by federal law, including data-sharing for citizenship verification, death records, or other eligibility checks, provided that such sharing is subject to written agreements and privacy protections consistent with Sections 5 and 6. Use and disclosure of motor-vehicle records shall also comply with the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act and with federal REAL ID requirements and the regulations issued there under.

(1) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to excuse, suspend, or delay any voter-list-maintenance duty imposed by state or federal law.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall review existing contracts and agreements to ensure compliance with this Act and shall amend or terminate any arrangement that conflicts with its requirements. The review shall be completed no later than [X] days after the effective date of this Act, and the [Chief Election Official] shall maintain and publish a current inventory of all agreements and contracts under which DMV or voter-registration data is shared, accessed, or processed.

SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official], in consultation with the [State Driver's License Agency], shall promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including rules governing written findings and corrective-action procedures, reporting by local election authorities, restoration of registrations cancelled or removed in violation of law, access control and logging for DMV data, agreement and contract terms,

audit and breach-notification procedures, and training and certification requirements.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], with full compliance required no later than [X] months after the effective date. The rules, forms, reporting schedules, audit procedures, and training requirements established under subsection (A) shall be issued no later than [X] days after the effective date.

Model Law 4: Pre-Registration Eligibility Verification Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Pre-Registration Eligibility Verification Act."

SECTION 2. VERIFICATION BEFORE PLACEMENT ON THE ROLLS.

(A) For every voter registration application, however submitted, the local election official shall, before placing the applicant on the voter rolls, apply the same verification tools used for list maintenance under Section 2(B) of the Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act, to the extent each is applicable to an applicant, to confirm the applicant's citizenship, identity, and residency and any other eligibility requirement.

(B) The verification applies to applications received from any source, including online, by mail, in person, through a driver's license agency, or through a voter registration drive.

(C) No applicant shall be placed on the voter rolls as an active registrant until verification has been completed under this section.

SECTION 3. NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE.

(A) If verification confirms eligibility, the applicant shall be registered promptly and within the time required by federal and state law.

(B) If verification indicates a mismatch or possible ineligibility, the election official shall follow the notice and cure procedures in Section 3 of the Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act: written notice stating the basis, a period of not less than [7] days to submit documentation, and pending classification during that period.

(C) If the applicant fails to respond or provide satisfactory documentation, the application shall be denied in writing with notice of the right to [appeal/seek review]. If satisfactory documentation is provided, the applicant shall be registered.

(D) An applicant whose status is pending on Election Day may vote a provisional ballot as provided in [state provisional ballot statute] and federal law.

SECTION 4. DOCUMENTATION AND PUBLIC RECORDS.

(A) The election official shall record, in the applicant's file, each verification performed, its date, its source, and its result, consistent with Section 4(C) of the Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act.

(B) Those records, and any denial or pending determination, are public records under Section 6 of the Voter List Transparency and Citizen Challenge Act, subject to its protection of sensitive personal information.

(C) Use of DMV data under this Act is subject to Section 5 of the Election Official Accountability and DMV Data Privacy Act.

SECTION 5. CONSISTENCY OF TOOLS AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

(A) Any data source added to or removed from Section 2(B) of the Comprehensive Voter Roll Verification and Maintenance Act is automatically added to or removed from pre-registration verification.

(B) An election official's duties under this Act are list-maintenance duties for purposes of Sections 2 through 4 of the Election Official Accountability and DMV Data Privacy Act.

SECTION 6. FEDERAL LAW AND REPORTING.

(A) This Act shall be applied consistently with the National Voter Registration Act, the Help America Vote Act, and other applicable federal law, including federal deadlines for acting on applications.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall report after each general election, by county, the number of applications received, registered, held pending, and denied after verification, with reasons for denial.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules to implement this Act, including standards for matching and reliability.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title _, Chapter_ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act takes effect on [date], and applies to applications received after that date.

Model Law 5: Voter Registration Change Notice and Audit Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Voter Registration Change Notice and Audit Act."

SECTION 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to ensure that voters receive prompt notice of changes to their voter-registration records; that every change is traceable to an identified source and preserved in an auditable record; that voters have a meaningful opportunity to identify, correct, or report unauthorized or erroneous changes; and that the public may review redacted records and aggregate reports to promote accurate, transparent, and accountable voter-roll maintenance.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(A) "Chief election official" means the [Secretary of State/State Election Director].

(B) "Registration authority" means the state, county, municipal, or other election official or office responsible for receiving voter-registration applications or maintaining official voter-registration records.

(C) "Covered registration change" means an addition, deletion, modification, status change, cancellation, or other change made or recorded by a registration authority to an existing voter-registration record, including:

(1) a change to a voter's name, residence address, mailing address, party affiliation, contact information, identifying information, or other information maintained in the voter-registration record;

(2) a change to active, inactive, canceled, removed, pending, or other voter-registration status;

(3) a change resulting from voter-list maintenance, a database match, a change-of-address record, a death record, a court order, or information received from another government agency; and

(4) the recording, cancellation, or modification of a request for an early, absentee, or mail ballot, including a change in the ballot-delivery address or method.

(D) "Source" means the person, entity, record, data system, or process that initiated or caused a covered registration change, including the voter, an authorized representative, an election official, a motor-vehicle agency, another government agency, a court, a death record, a postal or address record, an interstate or other database match, or an automated list-maintenance process.

(E) "Audit record" means the contemporaneous electronic record required by Section 4.

SECTION 4. AUDIT RECORD REQUIRED.

(A) A registration authority shall create and retain an audit record for every covered registration change at the time the change is entered or recorded.

(B) The audit record shall identify:

(1) the voter's unique registration identifier;

(2) the date and time of the change;

(3) the source of the change;

(4) the person, office, or system that entered or recorded the change;

(5) the information or status changed; and

(6) the information or status immediately before and after the change, except for protected personal identifiers.

(C) A registration authority shall not enter a covered registration change without creating an associated audit record. If the source is unknown, the audit record shall identify the source as "source not captured."

(D) The audit record shall be retained for at least [number] months after the election to which the change relates, or for the longer period required by state or federal law.

SECTION 5. NOTICE OF REGISTRATION CHANGE.

(A) Within [number] hours after recording a covered registration change, the registration authority shall send notice by text message or email to each voter who has elected to receive electronic registration alerts.

(B) For a voter who has not elected to receive electronic alerts, the registration authority shall send written notice by first-class mail within [number] days after recording a covered registration change.

(C) A notice required by this section shall:

(1) identify the registration information or status that changed, except that protected personal identifiers shall be masked or described only as changed;

(2) state the date and time of the change;

(3) identify the source of the change;

(4) identify the registration authority, office, official, or system that entered or recorded the change;

(5) explain how the voter may inspect the current registration record, correct an error, reverse an unauthorized change, or report the change as unauthorized; and

(6) state any applicable deadline for correcting, challenging, or responding to the change.

(D) If a covered registration change changes a voter's mailing address, email address, or telephone number, the registration authority shall send the notice to both the prior and new contact information to the extent that information is available and the notice can be sent without disclosing information

protected by law.

(E) Failure of a voter to receive notice does not by itself validate an otherwise unauthorized or erroneous change, nor does it by itself invalidate a lawful change. The registration authority shall retain proof of each notice sent or attempted with the audit record.

SECTION 6. CORRECTION AND REVIEW.

(A) A voter may report a covered registration change as unauthorized or erroneous to the registration authority without charge.

(B) The registration authority shall promptly investigate a credible report, document the report and disposition in the audit record, and correct or restore the voter's record when the change is found to be unauthorized or erroneous.

(C) If the covered registration change concerns a proposed cancellation, removal, or change of status based on residence, death, citizenship, identity, or another eligibility issue, the registration authority shall provide all notice, response, confirmation, cure, hearing, and appeal procedures required by state and federal law.

(D) Nothing in this Act authorizes a registration authority to cancel, remove, or change the status of a voter except as otherwise permitted by state and federal law. List-maintenance procedures must remain uniform and nondiscriminatory, and a change-of-residence removal must follow the applicable federal notice-and-waiting procedures.

SECTION 7. TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING.

(A) Audit records are election records. A voter may inspect the audit record associated with the voter's own registration record without charge.

(B) Redacted audit records are public records under [state public-records law], subject to the protection of Social Security numbers, driver-license and other government identification numbers, date of birth, confidential addresses, contact information made confidential by law, and other protected personal information. A redacted audit record shall identify the source of each change, the date and time of the change, the nature of the change, and the office or system that recorded the change.

(C) The chief election official shall publish an annual report, organized by county or registration authority, stating:

(1) the number of covered registration changes;

(2) the number of changes by category and source;

(3) the number of notices sent by text, email, and mail;

(4) the number of voter reports alleging an unauthorized or erroneous change;

(5) the number of changes corrected or restored after review; and

(6) the number of voter registrations canceled, removed, or placed in inactive status, stated by legal basis.

(D) The annual report shall not disclose information identifying an individual voter.

SECTION 8. RULES AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

(A) The chief election official may adopt rules necessary to implement this Act, including rules governing audit-record format, notice content, electronic-alert enrollment, confidentiality, correction procedures, and public reporting.

(B) Rules adopted under this Act may not reduce the notice, audit, source-disclosure, correction, or

record-retention requirements established by this Act.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date] and applies to covered registration changes made on or after that date.

Appendix

Appendix B.4 – Confirm Citizenship, Identity, and Residency of All Voters; Rigorous Voter Roll Maintenance

Re-use **NVRA, HAVA, REAL ID, USCIS SAVE, SSA** Death Master File, and key cases from **Policy I**, plus:

KEY RESOURCES

- **EAC** – list-maintenance and voter-registration resources. https://www.eac.gov
- **NCSL** – voter-list accuracy and list-maintenance page. https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-list-accuracy
- Sample state list-maintenance statutes (Kansas, Georgia, Texas, Wyoming, South Dakota) drawn from state codes cited in Policy I.
- **EAC** – Clearinghouse Resources on Voter Registration and List Maintenance (statewide procedures, data sources, and documented workflows). https://www.eac.gov/election-officials/clearinghouse-reso urces-voter-registration-list-maintenance
- **EAC** – Registration, Confidentiality, and Voter List Maintenance (voter-list disclosure and confidentiality practices). https://www.eac.gov/election-officials/voter-lists-registrati on-confidentiality-and-voter-list-maintenance
- **NCSL** – Challenges to Voter Eligibility (state-by-state survey of who may challenge, on what grounds, and by what procedure). https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/challenges-to-voter-eligibility
- **NASS** – Voting and State Address Confidentiality Programs (treatment of protected addresses in voter lists and published records). https://www.nass.org/sites/default/files/2025-12/Voting%2 0and%20State%20Address%20Confidentiality%20Progra ms%20January%202026%20Update.pdf

FEDERAL AUTHORITIES CITED IN THE REVISED MODEL LAWS

- **National Voter Registration Act, 52 U.S.C. § 20507** – general list-maintenance program duty and uniformity requirement (§ 20507(a)(4), (b)); confidentiality of declinations and of the agency through which a voter registered (§ 20507(a)(6)); notice and confirmation procedures for change-of-residence removals (§ 20507(d)); completion of systematic removal programs not later than 90 days before a federal primary or general election (§ 20507(c)(2)(A)); and the two-year retention and public-disclosure duty for list-maintenance records (§ 20507(i)). https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/52/20507
- **U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division** – NVRA List Maintenance Guidance. Explains the scope of the 90-day provision and confirms that it does not bar removals at a registrant's request or removals for death, disqualifying criminal conviction, or adjudicated mental incapacity, nor corrections to a voter's information. https://www.justice.gov/crt/nvra-list-maintenance-guidance
- **Help America Vote Act, 52 U.S.C. § 21083** – computerized statewide voter-registration list, regular list maintenance, coordination with State agency records, and

registration-information verification requirements. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/52/21083

- **52 U.S.C. § 20701** – twenty-two-month retention and preservation requirement for records and papers relating to any federal election, with penalties for violations. uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title52-section20701&num=0&edition=prelim
- **Driver's Privacy Protection Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 2721–2725** – federal prohibition on the release and use of personal information from state motor-vehicle records, the permissible uses that allow disclosure to a government agency carrying out its functions, limits on resale and redisclosure, and civil and criminal liability for unlawful use. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/2721
- **National Voter Registration Act, 52 U.S.C. § 20510 –** civil enforcement and private right of action, including the pre-suit notice to the chief state election official and the applicable waiting periods before an aggrieved person may sue. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/52/20510
- **Help America Vote Act, 52 U.S.C. § 21112** – State-based administrative complaint procedures for alleged violations of the Act's election-administration requirements, a useful model for the written-finding and corrective-action process in Section 3. https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=(title:52%20sect ion:21112%20edition:prelim)
- **REAL ID regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 37** – minimum standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards, including document retention, data-security, and access requirements relevant to Section 5. https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-6/chapter-I/part-37

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Make Elections Great Again Act*** (H.R. 7300, introduced January 30, 2026) – strengthens voter-roll maintenance and citizenship verification. https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7300/text

STATE STATUES AND MODELS

- **Wyoming SF 30** – Qualified elector status tied to date of next election. https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2026/SF0030
- **South Dakota**
  - SB 30 – Adds citizenship to challenge grounds. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26606
  - SB 31 – Confirmation letter as registration verification. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26608
  - SB 214 – Weekly publication of statewide voter file. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/27258

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Never Resided Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-The-Never-Resided-Act_v4.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - The Never Resided Act https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-initiatives-act-2-2-2/
  - Interstate Voter Assistance Act https://alec.org/model-policy/interstate-voter-assistance-act/

PRINCIPLE V.

Replace All Vulnerable / Insecure Voting Technology: Only Pre-Printed Secure Paper Ballots, Hand Marked

Security and Modernization of Voter Registration Systems

I. Security Standards

1. State and local election jurisdictions should align voter registration and voting-system security practices with applicable National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidance, including NIST Special Publication 800-53, Recommended Security Controls for Information Systems and Organizations, and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 200 (FIPS 200), Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems.
2. Because voter registration and voting systems are critical election infrastructure and contain sensitive personal information, states should apply security safeguards commensurate with a high-impact information-system classification.
3. State election authorities should regularly assess system security, identify vulnerabilities, document corrective actions, and ensure that vendors, contractors, and governmental partners handling election-system information meet equivalent security requirements.

II. Voter Registration Database Integrity

1. States should maintain voter registration systems consistent with the statewide-list requirements of Section 303 of the Help America Vote Act, codified at 52 U.S.C. § 21083. Systems should be regularly modernized to improve the accuracy, security, accessibility, and administrative reliability of voter registration records.
2. Each statewide voter registration system should incorporate the following data-management and security features:

    a. A centralized statewide database architecture that maintains common voter data in a shared record while restricting agency-specific information through role-based access controls and unique user credentials.

    b. Sufficient data fields to document, as applicable, a voter's date of birth, date of death, reason for removal or status change, effective date of the action, and the identity of the authorized official or system initiating the action.

    c. Secure, automated comparison capabilities with authoritative data sources, as permitted by law, including death records, address-change information, state vital records, court records, motor-vehicle records, and other relevant governmental sources.

    d. Tamper-evident and immutable audit logs documenting every addition, modification, review, transfer, or removal of a voter record. Audit logs should capture the date and time of the action, the authorized user or system involved, and the data elements affected.

    e. Modernized infrastructure capable of supporting secure data exchange, timely updates,

controlled interoperability, backup and recovery procedures, and continuity of operations.

III. Data Verification and Audit Standards

1. The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC), in consultation with state and local election officials, cybersecurity experts, and relevant federal agencies, should develop voluntary national guidance for voter-registration verification procedures, database security, software practices, authorized data sources, and audit methodologies.
2. States should establish regular comparison intervals for authoritative data sources and should provide election officials adequate time to review and resolve discrepancies before applicable election-administration deadlines.
3. Data comparisons should not result in an automatic removal, cancellation, or change in voter status without the review, notice, and procedural protections required by federal and state law.

IV. Secure API Access and Data Standards

1. States should use secure Application Programming Interfaces (APIs), where appropriate, to enable controlled and automated exchanges of voter-registration information with authorized governmental data sources.
2. Secure API access can improve the timeliness, accuracy, and traceability of voter-registration maintenance by facilitating verification against authoritative sources, including records maintained by the Social Security Administration, the U.S. Postal Service, state motor-vehicle agencies, vital-records agencies, and courts, as authorized by law.
3. Voter registration software should incorporate data-governance controls that:

    a. Apply uniform data formats and standardized field requirements.
    b. Validate required fields and identify missing, incomplete, inconsistent, or improperly formatted data.
    c. Prevent or flag invalid characters, duplicate or anomalous entries, and records lacking required identifying information.
    d. Record authorized changes promptly and preserve a forensic record of each data entry, correction, and status change.
    e. Limit access to authorized users and systems through role-based permissions, authentication controls, and documented access-management procedures.

V. Records Retention and Contractor Coordination

1. States should retain election records in accordance with applicable federal and state law, including the federal election-record retention requirements in 52 U.S.C. § 20701.
2. State contracts and data-sharing agreements involving personally identifiable information should establish clear standards for confidentiality, security, permitted uses, auditability, breach notification, data retention, and data destruction.
3. Agreements with interstate, motor-vehicle, address-verification, or other third-party data providers—including AAMVA or comparable entities—should establish secure procedures for identifying potential address changes or duplicate records using appropriate matching criteria, such as full name, date of birth, and prior and current address.
4. Information received through contractor or interstate data-sharing arrangements should

be made available to appropriate local election officials through secure and documented processes, subject to applicable privacy, security, and election-law requirements.

5. States should establish meaningful contractual remedies or administrative consequences for vendors, contractors, agencies, or other partners that fail to comply with applicable security, confidentiality, data-quality, or reporting requirements.

Principle V Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Eliminate Touchscreens, Ballot Marking Devices, QR Codes Read by Machines

1. Establish specific dates for phasing out and prohibiting the use of touchscreen voting systems, direct recording electronic (DRE) devices, and ballot marking devices (BMDs) as primary voting methods in all elections. BMDs should only be used as necessary for accessibility for disabled and handicapped voters as described below.
2. Prohibit Quick Response (QR) codes, barcodes, or any machine-readable codes on ballots that are scanned or interpreted by tabulation equipment for vote determination, to eliminate risks associated with digital encoding or alteration.
3. Mandate hand-marked paper ballots as the exclusive standard voting method for all voters (except limited accommodations in compliance with the Voters Disability Act ADA), printed pre-election on secure paper with precinct-specific numbering and controls.
4. Require manual mitigation protocols to confirm results of elections utilizing prohibited technologies during the phase-out period.

B. Allow for Certain Technology Solely for Disabled Voters, Supervised, Pre-Approved

1. Permit limited use of assistive voting technology exclusively for voters with disabilities who require accommodations under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA/HAVA), such as approved ballot marking devices or audio-assisted systems, but only when supervised by multi-partisan election officials or designated personnel.
2. Require pre-approval by the chief election official for any assistive technology.
3. Require that any assistive technology complies with certification under the Election Assistance Commission's Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) 2.0 and later.
4. Mandate strict supervision, chain-of-custody protocols, and public observation for any use of assistive technology to prevent misuse or coercion of disabled voters.

C. Prohibit Internal Modems and All Remote Access Capability for Any Voting Technology

1. Ban all internal modems, wireless capabilities, internet connectivity, or remote access features in all voting systems, tabulators, election management systems, electronic pollbooks, or any election-related hardware/software.
2. Require pre-election testing to confirm absence of modems, wireless modules, or remote capabilities, with mandatory physical inspection and removal if present.
3. Prohibit any post-testing modifications that could introduce connectivity, ensuring air-gapped

operations throughout the election process.

D. Mandate Public Pre-Election Testing of All Technology Used in Elections, Not Vendor Controlled

1. Require public comprehensive, mandatory pre-election logic and accuracy (L&A) testing of all voting equipment, tabulators, election management systems, and related technology
2. Mandate multipartisan and public observation of all L&A testing, with reasonable notice to the public, open access for observers, documentation of procedures, and reporting of any discrepancies or remediations.
3. Prohibit vendor-controlled and/or vendor-conducted testing of their technology products; require independent state or local control of all pre-election testing, with public notice and access, documenting each step in the process and retention of all testing procedures as election records.

E. No Foreign-Owned Voting Equipment Companies, No Foreign-Made Voting Equipment, Databases, Parts, or Software

1. Prohibit foreign ownership, control, or significant influence in companies manufacturing, supplying, or maintaining voting equipment, software, databases, or election systems.
2. Ban the use of any foreign-made voting equipment, components, parts, software, firmware, or databases in election administration.
3. Require certification under penalty of perjury that all election technology is domestically owned and sourced, with audits and penalties for violations.

F. Manual Confirmation and Backup for Any Technology Process, Including Tabulation, Electronic Poll Books (E-Poll Books)

1. Require manual, human-readable confirmation and backup processes for all technology-dependent steps, including tabulation (*e.g.*, hand-count audits or reconciliation), (paper backup lists), and voter verification.
2. Mandate the use of hard copy voter registration lists used during an election, requiring daily updates of voter activity each day of an election including early voting and Election Day.
3. Require the maintenance of all voter activity that has been recorded in manual poll books and ensure that all data is properly recorded, stored, and available for public inspection.
4. Prohibit the use of Electronic Poll Books in any election.
5. Mandate paper-based backups and redundant manual procedures to ensure auditability and post-election review of all technology processes used in voting and elections.
6. Prohibit the use of electronic processes without manual confirmation of each process.
7. Require hand-marked paper ballots in every election and retention of ballots for a period no less than two years following each election.

G. Publish Results at Each Voting Location Prior to Delivery to County, Then to State, to Allow Comparison of Results and Data by Public

1. Require precinct-level tabulation results (including hand-marked paper ballots scanned or

counted) to be publicly posted or announced at each voting location before ballots or memory cards are transported to the county level.

2. Mandate sequential public reporting: precinct results first, then county canvass totals, followed by state reporting, enabling public comparison and verification at each stage.
3. Ensure published precinct results include vote totals by race/contest, turnout data, and any discrepancies noted and reconciled prior to reporting.

H. All Voting Technology Built on Open-Source Hardware and Software; Eliminate Proprietary Code

1. Require all voting systems, tabulators, election management software, and related technology to use open-source hardware designs and software code, fully auditable and inspectable by the public and independent experts.
2. Prohibit proprietary, closed-source, or black-box code in any election-critical systems, ensuring no hidden algorithms or vendor-locked components.
3. Mandate public availability of source code, hardware schematics, and build instructions for certification and ongoing review, aligned with high-impact security standards that prioritize verifiability.
4. Common ownership of companies controlling voter information (*e.g.*, e-poll books, voter registration software and management systems, etc.) and voting and/or tabulating systems is inherently susceptible to fraud and should be prohibited.

Model Laws for Principle V. Replace All Vulnerable / Insecure Voting Technology: Only Pre-Printed Secure Paper Ballots, Hand Marked

Elections are most trustworthy when every vote is recorded on a durable, human-readable paper ballot that can be independently reviewed and recounted. This Principle provides Model Laws to phase out vulnerable electronic voting devices, require hand-marked paper ballots as the standard, harden all remaining election technology against connectivity and remote access, and ensure systems are domestically controlled, open to inspection, and not concentrated in a few hands. Together, these reforms create a more resilient, auditable election infrastructure in which technology supports—not replaces—transparent, paper-based records of voter intent.

Index – Model Law for Principle V: Secure Paper Ballots and Technology

1. Paper Ballot and Assistive Technology Act

Establishes hand-marked paper ballots on secure paper as the standard record of voter intent, phases out touchscreen and ballot-marking devices except as limited ADA accommodations, prohibits QR-code or barcode-based tabulation, bans electronic pollbooks, and requires manual backups and audits.

2. Election Technology Security and Testing Act

Prohibits modems, wireless connectivity, and remote access in all election systems, mandates pre-election security testing and public logic and accuracy tests, and requires that testing be conducted under the control of election officials rather than vendors.

3. Domestic, Open, and Non-Concentrated Voting Technology Act

Requires domestically owned and sourced election systems wherever feasible, mandates precinct-level posting and sequential reporting of results, moves toward open-source code and designs for election-critical systems, and restricts risky common ownership of voter-data and tabulation systems.

Model Law 1: Paper Ballot and Assistive Technology Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Paper Ballot and Assistive Technology Act."

SECTION 2. PHASE-OUT OF ELECTRONIC VOTING DEVICES AND QR-CODE BALLOTS.

(A) The use of touchscreen voting systems, direct-recording electronic (DRE) devices, and ballot-marking devices (BMDs) as primary voting methods in any election held in this State is prohibited after [date].

(B) During the phase-out period ending on [earlier transition date, if used], such systems may be used only as provided in Section 4 for voters with disabilities requiring accommodations.

(C) Quick Response (QR) codes, barcodes, or any other machine-readable codes on ballots that are scanned or interpreted by tabulation equipment for purposes of determining voter selections are prohibited.

(D) Nothing in this section prohibits the use of timing marks or other non-encoded marks necessary solely for ballot positioning and counting, so long as voter selections are recorded and tabulated from human-readable text or marks.

SECTION 3. HAND-MARKED PAPER BALLOTS AS THE STANDARD.

(A) Hand-marked paper ballots shall be the exclusive standard voting method for all voters in this State, except as necessary to provide reasonable accommodations to voters with disabilities under Section 4.

(B) All ballots shall be printed prior to each election on secure paper with appropriate security features, and shall include precinct-specific numbering or controls sufficient to support chain-of-custody, reconciliation, and audits.

(C) Ballots shall be marked by the voter's hand, using pen or other approved marking instrument, and shall be retained as the official record of voter intent.

SECTION 4. LIMITED USE OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may approve the limited use of assistive voting technology exclusively for voters with disabilities who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Help America Vote Act.

(B) Approved assistive technology may include ballot-marking devices, audio-assisted systems, or other accessible interfaces, provided that:

(1) The system produces a voter-verifiable, human-readable paper ballot that clearly shows all voter selections; and

(2) The paper ballot is cast and counted in the same manner as other hand-marked paper ballots.

(C) Any assistive technology must be:

(1) Pre-approved in writing by the [Chief Election Official]; and

(2) Certified as compliant with the most recent version of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG 2.0 or later).

(D) Use of assistive technology shall occur only under the supervision of multipartisan or nonpartisan election officials or designated personnel, with chain-of-custody protocols and public observation procedures designed to prevent misuse, coercion, or alteration of votes.

SECTION 5. MANUAL CONFIRMATION AND BACKUP FOR ALL TECHNOLOGY-DEPENDENT PROCESSES.

(A) For every technology-dependent process used in election administration, including but not limited to tabulation systems and voter-registration databases, election officials shall establish manual, human-readable confirmation and backup procedures sufficient to verify results and reconstruct events.

(B) All elections shall use hand-marked paper ballots as the primary record of voter intent and as the basis for audits, recounts, and post-election reviews.

(C) Manual reconciliation or hand-count audit procedures shall be used to confirm the accuracy of any machine tabulation of paper ballots, under rules adopted by the [Chief Election Official].

SECTION 6. PROHIBITION OF ELECTRONIC POLLBOOKS AND REQUIREMENT OF HARD-COPY LISTS.

(A) The use of electronic pollbooks or any electronic device as the primary voter check-in or registration-list system at polling places or early-voting locations is prohibited after [date].

(B) Election officials shall maintain and use hard-copy voter registration lists at each voting location, reflecting:

(1) The list of eligible voters assigned to that location; and

(2) Daily updates of voter activity for each day of early voting and Election Day.

(C) All voter activity recorded in manual pollbooks shall be preserved as part of the permanent election record and shall be available for public inspection consistent with state law.

SECTION 7. RETENTION OF PAPER BALLOTS AND RECORDS.

(A) All hand-marked paper ballots, including those produced by approved assistive technology, shall be retained for not less than two (2) years following each election, or longer if required by state or federal law.

(B) Paper-based backups, pollbooks, reconciliation worksheets, and related manual records shall be retained for the same period and maintained in a manner that preserves chain-of-custody and supports post-election audits and reviews.

SECTION 8. MITIGATION DURING PHASE-OUT PERIOD.

(A) During any period in which equipment prohibited by Section 2 remains in use under a transition plan approved by the [Chief Election Official], election officials shall implement manual mitigation protocols to confirm the results of affected elections, including:

(1) Increased sample hand-count audits; and

(2) Additional reconciliation and chain-of-custody checks for any contests or locations using such equipment.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall adopt rules specifying the minimum mitigation measures required during the phase-out period.

SECTION 9. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including timelines for phasing out prohibited devices, standards for secure ballot paper, and procedures for assistive technology approval and use.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], with full compliance required no later than [X] months after the effective date.

Model Laws 2: Election Technology Security and Testing Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Election Technology Security and Testing Act."

SECTION 2. PROHIBITION OF MODEMS, WIRELESS FUNCTIONS, AND REMOTE ACCESS.

(A) All voting systems, tabulators, election management systems, electronic pollbooks, and other election-related hardware or software used in this State shall operate as stand-alone, air-gapped systems without any modem, wireless capability, internet connectivity, or remote access functionality.

(B) The following are prohibited in any election-critical system:

(1) Internal or external modems;

(2) Wired or wireless network interfaces, including Wi-Fi, cellular, Bluetooth, or similar technologies; and

(3) Remote-access software, services, or configurations that allow off-site access or control.

(C) Any existing equipment possessing such capabilities shall have them physically removed or permanently disabled before use in any election.

SECTION 3. PRE-ELECTION SECURITY TESTING AND INSPECTION.

(A) Prior to each election, election officials shall conduct security testing and physical inspection of all voting equipment, tabulators, election management systems, and related technology to verify the absence of modems, wireless modules, and remote-access capabilities.

(B) Testing shall include, at a minimum:

(1) Hardware inspection for network or wireless components;

(2) Software and firmware review for remote-access services; and

(3) Network scanning or equivalent technical checks to confirm no external connectivity.

(C) If prohibited capabilities are detected, the equipment shall be removed from service until the issue is corrected and re-tested, and a written report shall be created and retained as an election record.

(D) No post-testing modification may be made that introduces connectivity or remote-access capabilities at any time prior to, during, or after the election.

SECTION 4. PUBLIC LOGIC AND ACCURACY TESTING.

(A) Before each election, the [Chief Election Official] or local election officials shall conduct public, comprehensive logic and accuracy (L&A) testing of all voting equipment, tabulators, election

management systems, and ballot-definition files to be used in the election.

(B) Public notice of the date, time, and location of L&A testing shall be provided at least [X] days in advance by:

(1) Posting on the election office website; and

(2) Publication or posting as required by state open-meeting or public-notice laws.

(C) Representatives of political parties, candidates, and the public shall be permitted to observe L&A testing, subject only to reasonable time, place, and manner rules necessary to protect equipment and the secrecy of any test ballots.

(D) L&A testing shall be documented in writing, including:

(1) The equipment and software tested;

(2) The test deck used;

(3) The procedures followed;

(4) Any discrepancies found; and

(5) The corrective actions taken and re-test results.

(E) All L&A testing documentation shall be retained as an election record for not less than [X] years.

SECTION 5. INDEPENDENCE FROM VENDORS.

(A) Pre-election testing required by this Act shall be conducted under the control and supervision of state or local election officials. Vendors and manufacturer personnel may be present to provide technical assistance, but shall not conduct or control the official testing process or certify the results.

(B) All test plans, procedures, and results shall be created, approved, and maintained by the election office, not by vendors, and shall be available for public inspection consistent with state law.

SECTION 6. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including technical standards for security testing and detailed L&A procedures.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and all equipment used in elections on or after that date shall comply with its requirements.

Model Laws 3: Domestic, Open, and Non-Concentrated Voting Technology Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Domestic, Open, and Non-Concentrated Voting Technology Act.”

SECTION 2. DOMESTIC OWNERSHIP AND SOURCING; PHASE-IN.

(A) Beginning on and after [phase-in date], all voting systems, tabulators, election management systems, voter-registration systems, electronic pollbook systems, and any other election-critical hardware, software, firmware, or databases used in this State shall be:

(1) Owned and controlled by entities that are not subject to foreign ownership, control, or significant influence as defined in subsection (B); and

(2) Manufactured and assembled from components, parts, software, firmware, and databases sourced from within the United States, except as permitted in subsection (C).

(B) For purposes of this Act, an entity is considered to be subject to foreign ownership, control, or significant influence if:

(1) A foreign government, foreign national, or foreign entity directly or indirectly owns, controls, or holds a substantial interest in the entity; or

(2) The entity derives a substantial portion of its revenue or strategic direction from foreign government contracts or foreign principals, as further defined by rule.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] may, by rule, allow limited use of non-domestic components where no reasonably equivalent domestic alternative exists, provided that:

(1) The components are not security-critical; and

(2) The use is documented and disclosed as part of the system's certification.

(D) No later than [earlier deadline], the [Chief Election Official] shall adopt a transition plan to replace non-compliant equipment and systems in time to meet the phase-in date set in subsection (A).

SECTION 3. CERTIFICATION, AUDITS, AND PENALTIES.

(A) Vendors and providers of election-critical technology shall certify under penalty of perjury that their systems comply with the domestic ownership and sourcing requirements of this Act and shall update such certifications upon any material change in ownership or sourcing.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] may conduct or commission audits to verify compliance, including review of supply chains, ownership structures, and manufacturing processes.

(C) Violations of this section may result in:

(1) Decertification of the system for use in this State;

(2) Civil penalties up to [$X] per violation; and

(3) Referral for prosecution under applicable state or federal law.

SECTION 4. PRECINCT-LEVEL POSTING AND SEQUENTIAL REPORTING OF RESULTS.

(A) At the close of polls and completion of tabulation at each voting location, precinct-level results, including results from hand-marked paper ballots scanned or counted there, shall be publicly posted or announced at that location before ballots, memory cards, or other media are transported to any central facility.

(B) Posted precinct results shall include, at a minimum:

(1) Vote totals by contest or race for that precinct;

(2) The number of ballots cast, including by voting method where applicable; and

(3) Any discrepancies identified and resolved during reconciliation.

(C) Election results shall be reported sequentially as follows:

(1) Precinct-level posting or announcement;

(2) Aggregation into county canvass totals; and

(3) State-level reporting of certified results.

(D) Precinct-level results shall be preserved and made available to the public so that members of the public can compare precinct, county, and state totals.

SECTION 5. OPEN-SOURCE ELECTION SYSTEMS.

(A) All voting systems, tabulators, election-management software, voter-registration software, electronic pollbook software, and other election-critical software used in this State shall, as of [open-source effective date], be based on open-source code and open hardware designs that are fully auditable and available for inspection by the public and independent experts.

(B) Proprietary, closed-source, or "black-box" software or hardware shall not be used in any election-critical system after the open-source effective date, except as allowed under subsection (F).

(C) For systems required to be open source under this section:

(1) Source code, build scripts, and relevant documentation shall be published or otherwise made available for public review under a license that permits independent examination and security testing; and

(2) Hardware schematics and build instructions shall be made available to the [Chief Election Official] and independent testing laboratories for certification and ongoing review.

(D) The [Chief Election Official] shall adopt open-source security and development standards aligned with high-impact security practices, emphasizing verifiability, reproducibility, and public auditability.

(E) Ownership or control of both voter-information systems (including voter-registration databases, electronic pollbooks, and voter-list management software) and voting or tabulation systems by the same company or corporate group is prohibited where such common ownership would create undue concentration of control or conflict of interest, as defined by rule.

(F) The [Chief Election Official] may grant temporary waivers, not exceeding [X] years, for jurisdictions transitioning from proprietary systems to compliant open-source systems, provided that:

(1) The jurisdiction has adopted a documented transition plan; and

(2) Additional audit and transparency measures are implemented during the transition.

SECTION 6. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including:

(1) Definitions and thresholds for foreign ownership or influence;

(2) Criteria for domestic sourcing and permitted exceptions;

(3) Technical standards for open-source systems; and

(4) Procedures for audits, certifications, and enforcement.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) The phase-in date for domestic ownership and sourcing under Section 2(A) shall be no later than [election cycle], and the open-source effective date under Section 5(A) shall be no later than [subsequent election cycle], unless otherwise provided by law.

Appendix

Appendix B.5 – Replace All Vulnerable/Insecure Voting Technology: Use Only Pre-Printed Paper Ballots, Hand Marked

CORE TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) SP 800-53 Rev. 5** – Security and Privacy Controls. https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-53/rev-5/final
- **Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 200** – Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems. https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/fips/200/final
- **NIST Election Security Project** – overview. https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/research-and-projects/election-security
- **NIST Election Security Guides** (infographics and fact sheets). https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/election-security-guides
- **NIST Voting Systems Program / Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG)** technical work. https://www.nist.gov/voting-systems
- **VVSG 2.0** – Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (EAC). https://www.eac.gov/voting-equipment/voluntary-voting-system-guidelines
- **NIST Cybersecurity Framework Election Infrastructure Profile.** https://csrc.nist.gov/pubs/vts/200/1/final
- **DHS/Sector Risk management Agency:** https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/AG-L etter-S1-Signed.pdf
- **08.20.2026 - WHTF Letter Commerce** - S1 SIGNED.pdf
- **Open Source Supplements to DHS materials** 8.26.26.pdf
- **DHS/FEMA Funding Guidelines for Election Security:** https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_gpd-i b-template_fy26_election-security-guidance.pdf

GEORGIA-SPECIFIC MODEL/PROPOSAL

- **Senate Bill 214 (2026)** – would require transition to hand-marked paper ballots; passed Georgia House 132–39 on April 2, 2026. Full bill text: https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/70548

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Make Elections Great Again Act*** **(H.R. 7300)** – requires voter-verifiable paper ballots.

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - ✔ One Citizen, One Vote Act https://alec.org/model-policy/safeguard-american-votes-and-elections-act-save-act/

PRINCIPLE VI.

Confirm Accuracy of Election Results Pre-Certification; Require Post Election Independent Audits

Principle VI Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Require Polling Place Reconciliation, as well as County/City, AND State Reconciliation to confirm that the number of ballots cast does not exceed the number of voters who voted in each election jurisdiction.

States should require both polling place and full precinct reconciliation of all vote methods.

1. **Polling Place Reconciliation** shall be completed after voting has ended at a polling location but prior to reporting results or transporting ballots from the polling location to the county or municipal election office.
   - Poll workers shall compare the number of ballots cast at the polling location to the number of voters credited with having voted at the polling location. The number of ballots cast at the polling location shall not exceed the number of voters recorded as having voted at the polling location. If the number of ballots cast exceeds the number of voters, the poll workers shall review the records to identify and resolve the discrepancy between the two numbers, which shall be completed at the polling location.

2. **County or Municipality** Reconciliation shall be based upon the total number of ballots cast by each method of voting for each precinct in the jurisdiction.

   - Officials shall compare the number of ballots cast for each precinct, by each method of voting (early in-person voting, Election Day in-person, provisional, and absentee) to the number of unique voters who voted from each precinct by each method of voting. The total number of ballots cast in by each method of voting shall not exceed the number of voters who voted by each method of voting in each precinct in the county or municipality. If the total number of ballots cast in the county (or city) exceeds the number of voters who voted, officials shall review the records, identify and resolve the discrepancy between the two numbers. This full precinct by precinct reconciliation shall be completed prior to certification of results by the county or municipality.
   - The complete list of each unique voter who participated in the election and their method of voting shall be prepared and retained with a copy of the election results and shall be a public record.

3. **State Reconciliation:** Prior to certification of the results of the election by the State, the State shall compare the total number of ballots cast by all methods of voting to the total number of voters who voted in the election, for each county or municipality for all methods of voting. The total number of ballots cast shall not exceed the total number of voters who voted in the election. If the total number of ballots cast in the county (or municipality) exceeds the number of unique voters who voted, State officials shall review the records of that jurisdiction's precinct-level reconciliation, identify and resolve the discrepancy. This full statewide reconciliation shall be completed prior to certification of results by the State.

- States shall prepare and publish a statewide report of the voters to whom an absentee ballot was issued, which voters returned an absentee ballot, and which voters did not return the absentee ballot, and which voters returned an absentee ballot that was rejected and not counted ("The Absentee Ballot Final Report").
- The Absentee Ballot Final Report is an election record that shall be retained and made available publicly in accordance with the applicable election records law.

B. Eliminate Risk-Limiting and Other Pretend 'Audits' of Election Results

1. Prohibit the use of risk-limiting audits (RLAs) as inherently unreliable for purposes of confirming election results.
2. Adopt requirements for post-election (pre-certification) manual confirmation of machine tabulations as follows:

   - Establish a minimum percentage of ballots cast in each jurisdiction as part of the computation and canvass of returns, to conduct a statistical recount of a random sample of ballots cast after each election. The sample shall include at least two (2) percent of the ballots cast, for which the ballots in one or more randomly selected specific race(s) are hand-counted, not re-tabulated by machine.

     (1) For each election, one or more specific contests or races shall be randomly selected;
     (2) For each selected contest or race, ballots shall be randomly selected from among the ballots cast in the jurisdiction, in a number equal to not less than two percent (2%) of the total ballots cast in the jurisdiction; and
     (3) The selected ballots shall be hand-counted by bipartisan or multipartisan teams for each selected contest or race, shall not be re-tabulated by machine for purposes of satisfying this subsection, and the manual count shall be compared to the reported machine tabulation.

C. Confirm by Statute that Certification Is Discretionary, Not Ministerial, to Ensure Accuracy of Results

1. Define certification of election results as a discretionary, not a ministerial duty, and requiring that canvassing boards or chief election officials shall withhold certification until reconciliation is completed and until material discrepancies or unresolved irregularities are resolved.
2. Require election officials to affirmatively determine and confirm that all required reconciliation, verification, and chain-of-custody processes have been completed and that results are accurate prior to certification.
3. Provide for certification notwithstanding the existence of and failure to resolve material discrepancies upon a finding of the specific material discrepancy(s) that exist that cannot be resolved.
4. Provide statutory authority for certification to be delayed pending resolution of accuracy issues, with clear standards and documentation requirements.
5. Provide statutory protections against liability of election officials for refusing to certify election results as accurate if reconciliation and resolution of material discrepancies have not occurred.

D. Require Independent Post-Election Audits of Election Procedures & Results by State Auditors / 3rd Party (Not the Election Offices Auditing Themselves)

1. Mandate independent post-election audits of both election procedures (*e.g.*, chain-of-custody,

ballot handling, voter verification, etc.) and accuracy of results (*e.g.*, vote counts, tabulation accuracy, etc.).

2. Post-election, post-certification audits shall be conducted by the state auditor and/or a legislative audit bureau or independent of the election office(s) or official(s) and any vendor involved with/or who administered the election
3. Key principles of an effective post-election, post-certification audit of election procedures shall include:

    - **Independence of Auditors:** The audit must be conducted by an entity other than the election officials, office(s) that administered the election.
    - **Transparency and Cooperation:** Auditors must have access to all election records (original documents) including chain of custody records for each step in the election process and mandatory cooperation by election officials and employees with the auditors, including penalties for failure to cooperate.
    - **Expertise in election laws and procedures:** Auditors must be trained and have expertise in the election code and the rules and procedures required by law for administration of elections
    - **Documentation:** Auditors must document each step in the audit process as part of the final audit report.
    - **Accountability and Corrective Action:** The audit should assess and report on the jurisdiction's level of compliance with applicable federal and state laws, regulations, and procedural requirements, with recommendations for improvements and corrective action(s) needed and timelines for and reporting of implementation of recommendations.
    - **Public Input:** The post-election, post-certification procedures audit shall include the opportunity for public comment and input into the scope of the audit prior to commencement of the audit. The preliminary audit report containing detailed audit findings shall be made public prior to finalizing the audit report, with the opportunity for public comment and concerns not yet addressed by the auditors and which shall be taken into consideration by the auditors and responses and actions taken included in the final audit report.

Model Laws for Principle VI. Confirm Accuracy of Election Results Pre-Certification; Require Post Election Independent Audits

Certification should be based on verified numbers, not assumptions. This Principle provides Model Laws to require strict reconciliation and targeted hand-count checks before results are certified, to clarify that certification is a discretionary duty tied to accuracy, and to mandate truly independent post-election audits conducted outside the election offices themselves. Together, these measures create multiple layers of verification—before and after certification—to detect errors, resolve discrepancies, and strengthen public trust in the final results.

Index – Model Laws for Principle VI: Reconciliation, Certification, and Independent Audits

1. Election Reconciliation and Pre-Certification Hand-Count Act

Requires polling-place, county, and statewide reconciliation so ballots never exceed voters, mandates statewide absentee ballot final reports, and replaces risk-limiting or statistical audits with pre-certification hand-count checks in randomly selected precincts and contests.

2. Discretionary Certification and Election Official Protection Act

Defines certification as a discretionary duty tied to reconciliation and accuracy, allows reasonable delays to resolve material discrepancies, and protects officials who in good faith refuse to certify results they reasonably believe are inaccurate or incomplete.

3. Independent Post-Election Procedures and Results Audit Act

Requires independent, post-certification audits by state auditors or legislative bureaus rather than election offices, with full access to records, documented findings, corrective-action plans, and opportunities for public comment.

Model Law 1: Election Reconciliation and Pre-Certification Hand-Count Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Election Reconciliation and Pre-Certification Hand-Count Act."

SECTION 2. POLLING PLACE RECONCILIATION.

(A) After voting has ended at each polling location and before reporting results or transporting ballots to the county or municipal election office, poll workers shall reconcile the number of ballots with the number of voters credited with voting at that location.

(B) Poll workers shall compare:

(1) The total number of ballots cast at the polling location; to

(2) The total number of voters recorded as having voted at the polling location.

(C) The number of ballots cast at the polling location shall not exceed the number of voters recorded as having voted at that location. If the number of ballots exceeds the number of voters, poll workers shall review the records, identify any discrepancy, and resolve it at the polling location before ballots or results are transported.

SECTION 3. COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY RECONCILIATION.

(A) Each county or municipality shall conduct a full precinct-by-precinct reconciliation of all ballots cast before certifying results.

(B) Officials shall compare, for each precinct and for each method of voting (including in-person early voting, Election Day in-person voting, provisional voting, and absentee/mail voting):

(1) The total number of ballots cast; to

(2) The total number of unique voters who voted from that precinct by that method.

(C) For each precinct, and for the jurisdiction as a whole, the total number of ballots cast by each method of voting shall not exceed the number of voters who voted by that method. If the total number of ballots exceeds the number of voters, officials shall review the records, identify the discrepancy, and resolve it before certification.

(D) The complete list of each unique voter who participated in the election, including the method by which the voter cast a ballot, shall be prepared and retained with a copy of the election results and shall be a public record consistent with state law.

SECTION 4. STATEWIDE RECONCILIATION.

(A) Prior to certification of the results of any election by the State, the [Chief Election Official] shall

reconcile, for each county or municipality:

(1) The total number of ballots cast by all methods of voting; with

(2) The total number of unique voters who voted in the election, by method of voting.

(B) The total number of ballots cast in each county or municipality shall not exceed the total number of unique voters who voted in that jurisdiction.

(C) If the total number of ballots cast in any county or municipality exceeds the number of unique voters who voted, State officials shall review that jurisdiction's precinct-level reconciliation records, identify the discrepancy, and ensure that it is resolved before state certification.

SECTION 5. ABSENTEE BALLOT FINAL REPORT.

(A) For each election, the [Chief Election Official] shall prepare a statewide "Absentee Ballot Final Report" that includes, by county or municipality:

(1) The number of voters to whom an absentee ballot was issued;
(2) The number of voters who returned an absentee ballot;
(3) The number of voters who did not return an absentee ballot; and
(4) The number of absentee ballots returned but rejected and not counted, with the general reason for rejection.

(B) The Absentee Ballot Final Report is an election record that shall be retained and made available to the public in accordance with applicable election-records and public-records laws, including electronic access where feasible.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITION OF RISK-LIMITING AND SIMILAR AUDITS; REQUIRED PRE-CERTIFICATION HAND-COUNT AUDITS.

(A) Risk-limiting audits and similar statistical or sampling-based procedures shall not be used or represented as sufficient to confirm the accuracy of election results for purposes of certification under state law.

(B) Instead, each jurisdiction shall conduct a pre-certification manual confirmation of machine tabulations as follows:

(1) For each election, at least [no less than two percent (2%)] of all precincts in the jurisdiction shall be randomly selected;

(2) One or more specific contests or races shall be randomly selected for each selected precinct; and

(3) All ballots in the selected contest(s) for each selected precinct shall be hand-counted by bipartisan or multipartisan teams, and the manual count shall be compared to the machine tabulation.

(C) If discrepancies exceeding thresholds established by rule are identified, expanded hand-counting or additional audits shall be conducted as prescribed by the [Chief Election Official].

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including:

(1) Detailed reconciliation procedures;

(2) Formats for the Absentee Ballot Final Report; and

(3) Standards for random selection and expansion of hand-count checks.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting

provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 2: Discretionary Certification and Election Official Protection Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Discretionary Certification and Election Official Protection Act."

SECTION 2. CERTIFICATION DEFINED AS A DISCRETIONARY DUTY.

(A) Certification of election results by canvassing boards, county or municipal governing bodies, or the [Chief Election Official] is a discretionary duty, not a purely ministerial act.

(B) Election officials responsible for certification shall withhold certification if:

(1) Required reconciliation procedures have not been completed; or

(2) Material discrepancies or unresolved irregularities remain that call into question the accuracy of the results.

SECTION 3. PRECONDITIONS FOR CERTIFICATION.

(A) Prior to certification, the certifying authority shall affirmatively determine and confirm that:

(1) All legally required reconciliation, verification, and chain-of-custody processes have been completed; and

(2) The results to be certified accurately reflect the ballots lawfully cast, subject only to any disclosed unresolved discrepancies.

(B) The certifying authority shall document its findings regarding completion of required procedures and the status of any discrepancies in a written certification report, which shall be an election record.

SECTION 4. HANDLING OF UNRESOLVED DISCREPANCIES.

(A) If specific material discrepancies exist that cannot be resolved despite reasonable efforts, the certifying authority may proceed with certification only if it:

(1) Identifies in writing the specific unresolved discrepancies;

(2) Explains why they cannot be resolved; and

(3) Assesses and states whether, in its judgment, the discrepancies are likely to affect the outcome of any contest.

(B) The written explanation of unresolved discrepancies shall accompany the certification and shall be made available to the public.

SECTION 5. AUTHORITY TO DELAY CERTIFICATION.

(A) The certifying authority may delay certification of any election for a reasonable period necessary to:

(1) Complete required reconciliation, verification, and audit procedures; or

(2) Investigate and resolve material discrepancies or irregularities.

(B) Standards for delay shall include:

(1) A requirement that the basis for delay be documented in writing;

(2) A requirement that the authority specify what steps are being taken to resolve outstanding issues; and

(3) A requirement that updated status reports be made available to the public at reasonable intervals.

(C) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit indefinite delay or to alter statutory deadlines without express legislative authority, but courts may extend deadlines when necessary to ensure accurate results.

SECTION 6. PROTECTIONS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS.

(A) An election official or member of a canvassing board shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability solely for refusing or failing to certify election results that the official reasonably believes are inaccurate or incomplete due to unresolved reconciliation or verification issues, provided that the official:

(1) Acts in good faith;
(2) Documents the reasons for refusal or delay in writing; and
(3) Cooperates with lawful efforts to resolve outstanding issues.

(B) Nothing in this section shall shield an official from liability for willful misconduct, fraud, or intentional violation of law.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules to implement this Act, including guidance on documentation, standards for determining material discrepancies, and model forms for certification reports.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to certifications of elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 3: Independent Post-Election Procedures and Results Audit Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Independent Post-Election Procedures and Results Audit Act."

SECTION 2. INDEPENDENT POST-ELECTION, POST-CERTIFICATION AUDITS.

(A) After certification of each general election, and for other elections as prescribed by law, an independent post-election audit shall be conducted to evaluate both:

(1) Compliance with election procedures, including chain-of-custody, ballot handling, voter verification, and related processes; and
(2) The accuracy of reported results, including vote counts and tabulation accuracy.

(B) Audits shall be conducted by:

(1) The State Auditor;
(2) A Legislative Audit Bureau; or
(3) Another independent auditing entity designated by law, which is organizationally and operationally independent from the election offices and officials who administered the election.

SECTION 3. INDEPENDENCE AND ACCESS.

(A) Election offices or officials that administered the election shall not conduct or control the post-certification audit of their own work, but shall cooperate fully with the independent auditors.

(B) Independent auditors shall have access to all election records necessary to perform the audit, including:

(1) Original documents;
(2) Chain-of-custody records for ballots and equipment;
(3) Reconciliation logs;
(4) System logs and configuration records; and
(5) Any other records required to assess procedural compliance and accuracy.

(C) Election officials and employees shall be required by law to cooperate with the auditors, and penalties may be imposed for willful failure or refusal to cooperate, as provided by statute.

SECTION 4. AUDITOR QUALIFICATIONS AND SCOPE.

(A) Auditors shall be trained in, or assisted by personnel with expertise in:

(1) The state election code;

(2) Applicable federal election laws and regulations; and

(3) The rules and procedures required by law for administration of elections.

(B) The audit scope shall include, at a minimum:

(1) Review of compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements;

(2) Evaluation of chain-of-custody and record-keeping practices;

(3) Testing or review of tabulation accuracy and reporting; and

(4) Assessment of any discrepancies or irregularities identified during or after the election.

SECTION 5. DOCUMENTATION, FINDINGS, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION.

(A) Auditors shall document each step in the audit process and retain working papers as part of the permanent audit file.

(B) The audit report shall:

(1) Describe the procedures performed;

(2) Summarize findings regarding compliance and accuracy;

(3) Identify any deficiencies or violations; and

(4) Recommend corrective actions and timelines for implementation.

(C) Jurisdictions audited shall be required to respond in writing, indicating the steps they will take to implement recommended corrective actions and the timelines for doing so.

(D) Follow-up reporting on implementation of corrective actions shall be made to the [State Auditor / Legislative Audit Bureau] and, as appropriate, to the legislature or public oversight bodies.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC INPUT AND TRANSPARENCY.

(A) Before commencement of each post-election audit, the auditing entity shall provide public notice of the proposed scope and invite public comment and input for a reasonable period.

(B) A preliminary audit report, including detailed audit findings, shall be made public before the report is finalized, with an opportunity for public comment on issues not yet addressed by the auditors.

(C) Auditors shall consider public comments and, where appropriate, address them in the final report or in an accompanying response document.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [State Auditor / Legislative Audit Bureau], in consultation with the [Chief Election Official], may

promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including standards for sampling, documentation, and public participation.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and the first audit cycle under this Act shall apply to elections held on or after that date.

Appendix

Appendix B.6 – Confirm Accuracy of Election Results Pre-Certification; Require Post-Election Independent Audits

KEY RESOURCES

- **EAC** – election security preparedness and audit resources. https://www.eac.gov/election-officials/election-security-preparedness
- **EAC** – fact sheet "Serving Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) Voters" (for military/overseas timing interactions). https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/UOCAVA_Fact_Sheet_V2.1_Final_508.pdf
- **NIST** – Election Security Project (includes audit-related guidance). https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/research-and-projects/election-security
- **Applying the NIST Cybersecurity Framework to Elections** (EAC/NIST slide deck). https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/event_document/files/day2-2017-02-14-12_00-01-franklin-cybersecurity-framework1.pdf
- **NIST** – security recommendations for election systems. https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/security-recommendations
- State risk-limiting audit statutes (*e.g.*, Colorado) to be added by counsel as state-specific examples.

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- **Make Elections Great Again Act (H.R. 7300)** – authorizes HAVA funds for post-election audits.

STATE STATUTES AND MODELS

- **Wyoming:**
  - SF 28 – Individual testing of voting machines and systems. https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2026/SF0028
  - SF 113 – 5% hand-count audit (2026 primary and general)
- **South Dakota:** SB 101 – Presidential elector duties

PRINCIPLE VII.

Ensure Transparency of Elections and Election Records

Principle VII Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Ensure All Processing, Voting, Tabulation Procedures Are Open to Meaningful Public Observer and Media Access

1. Mandate uniform statewide standards granting meaningful public and media observer access to all stages of election processes.
2. Require multipartisan observer access (including media representatives) with meaningful proximity to observe all election procedures, including notice of and access to pre-election logic and accuracy testing, absentee ballot processing and verification, voting (including voter verification at the polls), tabulation, and post-election reconciliation, canvassing, reporting and certification procedures, with clear rules to protect observer rights, training requirements, and anti-intimidation protections for both poll officials and observers.
3. Prohibit actions by poll officials that render observation meaningless, *e.g.*, distant viewing, time limits or requirements preventing full observation, or exclusion from any procedures involved in the pre-election, voting, tabulation, and certification processes.

B. ALL Election Records (Including Electronic) Are by Law Public Records That Must Be Retained for 24 Months

1. All election-related records—both paper and electronic—are public records that shall be made available at no cost to the public.
2. Election records include:

    - **Voter Registration and Voter Rolls.** Records related to voter registration, including, but not limited to voter registration applications, accepted registrations, rejected registrations, the computerized list of eligible voters, verification records confirming identity, eligibility, residency and citizenship status of each voter; voter rolls, including the full name, address, date of birth, party affiliation, voting history, cast vote records, and other information collected and retained by the election office for purposes of the creation and maintenance of the statewide list of eligible voters, provided that personal identifying information as defined in this Act may be repressed from public disclosure; list maintenance records, including list maintenance audit procedures, policies, reports, communications and policies related to voter registration, voter rolls, and list maintenance.
    - **Vote by mail records.** Records related to vote by mail, including but not limited to notices to voters of vote by mail policies and procedures, all mail ballot applications, records related to verification of mail ballot applications and rejections, correspondence with voters applying for mail ballots, all election mail regarding mail ballots, absentee ballots, ballot envelopes, mail ballot chain of custody documents, policies and procedures regarding verification of absentee and vote by mail voters.

- **Verification of voter eligibility records.** Documents and records related to verification of a voter's eligibility to cast a ballot, including but not limited to voter affidavits provided by voters voting in-person, and/or by provisional, absentee and/or mail.
- **Election personnel records.** Records related to identity and eligibility of election officials, and workers, including full time, part-time, and temporary election workers, including but not limited to records confirming and/or regarding party affiliation, confirmation of U.S. citizenship, and other legal requirements governing voter eligibility.
- **Records related to voting and the voting process.** Records related to voting and the voting process including but not limited to poll books, all paper records of voter check-in), qualified or eligible voter list, tabulation reports, lists of participating voters by election and voting location, including the voter's name, unique voter identification number, voting jurisdiction (precinct or ward) and the method by which their ballot was cast; reports prepared by election workers and officials, oaths and sworn statements of officials overseeing the election, reports of errors in tabulating, counting, or canvassing and resolution of errors, reports regarding provisional ballots requested, issued, and the resolution of each provisional cast; reconciliation reports and records regarding resolution of discrepancies, and all other records related to the voting, tabulation, and counting process.
- **Technology records.** Records of logic and accuracy testing of all equipment used or to be used in the election, including but not limited to records regarding software updates and installation, communications with system vendors, vendor contracts and securing and storage of election equipment between elections.
- **Chain of Custody records.** Protocols and procedures for securing and retaining all documents identified:; Chain of custody logs and all records tracking and transferring of equipment to and from voting locations, records related to drop boxes or other receptacles and polling places, and chain of custody records for security of ballots from the chief election official of the jurisdiction to polling locations, security of ballots once voted, by deposit into any voting machine or tabulator, or other receptacle; chain of custody of applications for absentee ballots, sending of absentee ballots to a requestor or a voter if no request is required, and chain of custody for returned absentee ballots; original removable media used to transfer election results and records related thereto.
- **Records sent or received via US Mail or other means.** Delivery and processing of all records related to election records sent or received by US mail, commercial mail, or hand-delivery, including but not limited to absentee ballots, records of ballot processing and delivery; records of undeliverable or forwarded election mail.
- **Cast Vote records.** The cast vote record (CVR) and corresponding ballot images for each ballot cast and counted, together with the identifiers used to link a cast vote record (CVR) to a ballot image, but which may under certain circumstances be randomized to ensure the identity of the voter is protected.
- **Tabulator records.** Tabulator logs from each tabulator used to tabulate votes in a Federal Election.
- **Records of Reconciliation and Certification of Results.** Election results certificates, official tallies of all votes including a record of the total number of voters casting a ballot in each voting location, the number of ballots cast in each voting jurisdiction (precinct or ward) by each vote method recognized in the state, records of any spoiled or missing ballots, and the number of voters casting ballots in each voting location. Reconciliation of the number of voters to the number of ballots cast by all methods of voting, which numbers shall match and be identical; the report of the resolution of discrepancies as to the inability of the numbers of voters cannot be reconciled to the number of ballots cast at any voting location; records produced and signed under penalty of perjury for certification of the election results

as accurate.

- **Canvassing board reports.** The certification reports and summaries of vote verification processes utilized during the federal election.
- **Incident reports.** Copies of all incident reports submitted by election officials or voters and the records regarding disposition of all complaints and Incident reports related to the election.
- **Post-Election Records.** Post-election audit reports, documents, parameters for the conduct and implementation of such audits.
- **Other Records of the Election, in All Formats.** All other records may be developed, generated, or produced by election officials pertaining to voter registration, voter rolls, list maintenance, the administration and conduct of the election and all post-election proceedings, in whatever format and regardless of whether the records are retained by the election office or a third-party vendor or designee.
- **Detailed Voter Eligibility and Registration Supporting Documents.** Voter registration applications including attached proofs (proof-of-citizenship documents, identity and residency proofs, name-change documents), affidavits or attestations of eligibility (citizenship affirmations, restoration of rights certificates), cancellation requests/forms and related proofs, inactive and canceled registrations, confirmation notices and responses sent to voters, database access logs, verifications and matches (SAVE, SSA Death Master File), and audit reports specific to voter roll maintenance.
- **Voted and Physical Ballot Records.** All voted ballots (paper, absentee/mail, provisional, UOCAVA, spoiled/rejected, duplicated), unused and spoiled ballots and stubs, ballot envelopes of all types (secrecy envelopes, return envelopes, affidavit envelopes, UOCAVA affidavit envelopes).
- **UOCAVA and Military/Overseas Ballot Records.** UOCAVA Federal Post Card Applications, transmission requests and logs (including email, fax, electronic methods), witness or self-attestation forms.
- **Enhanced Chain-of-Custody and Security Details.** Seal number records and logs for tamper-evident seals on boxes, containers, and equipment, custody logs and movement records including any video recordings used for security, inventory logs for ballots and equipment, ballot-transfer forms.
- **Poll Worker and Precinct Operations Records.** Poll worker oaths, attestations, sign-in sheets, and instructions, precinct-specific reconciliation reports/forms (ballots issued vs. voted, spoiled, unused).
- **Detailed Audit, Logic & Accuracy, and Reconciliation Records.** Logic and Accuracy (L&A) test results including test decks/scripts, hash validations, and attestations, software/firmware integrity checks and hash validations, pre-election and post-election audit reports (including manual hand-counts, risk-limiting audits, process audits), equipment logs (access logs, configuration changes).
- **Certification and Administrative Records.** Statements of poll, canvass, and certification documents, election night reporting data and unofficial results.
- **Supporting Election Administration Records.** Public records requests and responses related to elections, observer logs (where required), vulnerable voter protections documentation (*e.g.*, facility voting logs).

1. Require retention of all election records for a minimum of 24 months after the election (exceeding the federal 22-month requirement under 52 U.S.C. §§ 20701–20706 for federal elections), with secure storage and preservation protocols to enable public access, audits, and legal challenges.
2. Apply public records status uniformly to both physical and electronic records, including those generated or stored by voting systems, election management software, or third-party vendors,

with no exemptions for proprietary formats or vendor-controlled data.

3. Require the digitization of all election records available through the Public Information Act to reduce labor burdens and increase transparency

C. Publish / Make Available at No Cost All Election Records (Redacted PII), Including All Chain of Custody Documents, Cast Vote Records, Ballot Images, Electronic and All Other Records Related to the Election

1. Require prompt publication or free public availability (*e.g.*, online posting or on-request access without fees) of all election records, with personally identifiable information (PII) (as defined below) redacted to protect voter privacy while preserving transparency.
2. Suppression of voter identity (name and address) shall be permitted if a voter presents a court order protecting such public disclosure.
3. Personally identifiable information is defined as full social security numbers. Full date of birth is not personally identifiable information.
4. Establish timelines for availability (*e.g.*, preliminary records before certification, final records promptly after certification) and formats that facilitate public review (*e.g.*, searchable PDFs, machine-readable files where applicable), ensuring records are accessible without undue barriers.

D. Citizen Standing to Sue if Records Are Withheld or Destroyed

1. Grant explicit statutory standing to any citizen, voter, candidate, or interested party to bring civil action (including mandamus, injunction, or declaratory relief) against election officials or jurisdictions for failure to provide public access to election records, withholding of records, premature destruction, or non-compliance with retention requirements.
2. Provide that such actions may seek court orders compelling production of records, preservation of records, or other remedies, with no requirement to show personal injury beyond the public interest in election transparency.
3. Allow prevailing plaintiffs to recover reasonable attorney fees and costs to incentivize enforcement of public records obligations.

E. Provide Civil and Criminal Penalties for Withholding / Destroying Election Records

1. Establish civil penalties for election officials or employees who willfully withhold, delay access to, or fail to produce required election records upon lawful request, including fines per violation or per day of delay.
2. Impose criminal penalties (*e.g.*, misdemeanor or felony depending on intent and harm) for intentional destruction, alteration, concealment, or premature disposal of election records before the required retention period expires.
3. Include penalties for knowing violations of public records laws related to elections, with enhanced penalties if the withholding or destruction materially affects public trust, auditability, or the ability to challenge election results.

Model Laws for Principle VII. Ensure Transparency of Elections and Election Records

Certification should be based on verified numbers, not assumptions. This Principle provides Model Laws to require strict reconciliation and targeted hand-count checks before results are certified, to clarify that certification is a discretionary duty tied to accuracy, and to mandate truly independent post-election audits conducted outside the election offices themselves. Together, these measures create multiple layers of verification—before and after certification—to detect errors, resolve discrepancies, and strengthen public trust in the final results.

Index – Model Laws for Principle VI: Reconciliation, Certification, and Independent Audits

1. **Election Reconciliation and Pre-Certification Hand-Count Act**
   Requires polling-place, county, and statewide reconciliation so ballots never exceed voters, mandates statewide absentee ballot final reports, and replaces risk-limiting or statistical audits with pre-certification hand-count checks in randomly selected precincts and contests.

2. **Discretionary Certification and Election Official Protection Act**

   Defines certification as a discretionary duty tied to reconciliation and accuracy, allows reasonable delays to resolve material discrepancies, and protects officials who in good faith refuse to certify results they reasonably believe are inaccurate or incomplete.

3. **Independent Post-Election Procedures and Results Audit Act**

   Requires independent, post-certification audits by state auditors or legislative bureaus rather than election offices, with full access to records, documented findings, corrective-action plans, and opportunities for public comment.

Model Law 1: Election Reconciliation and Pre-Certification Hand-Count Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Election Reconciliation and Pre-Certification Hand-Count Act."

SECTION 2. POLLING PLACE RECONCILIATION.

(A) After voting has ended at each polling location and before reporting results or transporting ballots to the county or municipal election office, poll workers shall reconcile the number of ballots with the number of voters credited with voting at that location.

(B) Poll workers shall compare:

(1) The total number of ballots cast at the polling location; to

(2) The total number of voters recorded as having voted at the polling location.

(C) The number of ballots cast at the polling location shall not exceed the number of voters recorded as having voted at that location. If the number of ballots exceeds the number of voters, poll workers shall review the records, identify any discrepancy, and resolve it at the polling location before ballots or results are transported.

SECTION 3. COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY RECONCILIATION.

(A) Each county or municipality shall conduct a full precinct-by-precinct reconciliation of all ballots cast before certifying results.

(B) Officials shall compare, for each precinct and for each method of voting (including in-person early voting, Election Day in-person voting, provisional voting, and absentee/mail voting):

(1) The total number of ballots cast; to

(2) The total number of unique voters who voted from that precinct by that method.

(C) For each precinct, and for the jurisdiction as a whole, the total number of ballots cast by each method of voting shall not exceed the number of voters who voted by that method. If the total number of ballots exceeds the number of voters, officials shall review the records, identify the discrepancy, and resolve it before certification.

(D) The complete list of each unique voter who participated in the election, including the method by which the voter cast a ballot, shall be prepared and retained with a copy of the election results and shall be a public record consistent with state law.

SECTION 4. STATEWIDE RECONCILIATION.

(A) Prior to certification of the results of any election by the State, the [Chief Election Official] shall reconcile, for each county or municipality:

(1) The total number of ballots cast by all methods of voting; with

(2) The total number of unique voters who voted in the election, by method of voting.

(B) The total number of ballots cast in each county or municipality shall not exceed the total number of unique voters who voted in that jurisdiction.

(C) If the total number of ballots cast in any county or municipality exceeds the number of unique voters who voted, State officials shall review that jurisdiction's precinct-level reconciliation records, identify the discrepancy, and ensure that it is resolved before state certification.

SECTION 5. ABSENTEE BALLOT FINAL REPORT.

(A) For each election, the [Chief Election Official] shall prepare a statewide "Absentee Ballot Final Report" that includes, by county or municipality:

(1) The number of voters to whom an absentee ballot was issued;

(2) The number of voters who returned an absentee ballot;

(3) The number of voters who did not return an absentee ballot; and

(4) The number of absentee ballots returned but rejected and not counted, with the general reason for rejection.

(B) The Absentee Ballot Final Report is an election record that shall be retained and made available to the public in accordance with applicable election-records and public-records laws, including electronic access where feasible.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITION OF RISK-LIMITING AND SIMILAR AUDITS; REQUIRED PRE-CERTIFICATION HAND-COUNT CHECKS.

(A) Risk-limiting audits and similar statistical or sampling-based procedures shall not be used or represented as sufficient to confirm the accuracy of election results for purposes of certification under state law.

(B) Instead, each jurisdiction shall conduct a pre-certification manual confirmation of machine tabulations as follows:

(1) For each election, at least [no less than two percent (2%)] of all precincts in the jurisdiction shall be randomly selected;

(2) One or more specific contests or races shall be randomly selected for each selected precinct; and

(3) All ballots in the selected contest(s) for each selected precinct shall be hand-counted by bipartisan or multipartisan teams, and the manual count shall be compared to the machine tabulation.

(C) If discrepancies exceeding thresholds established by rule are identified, expanded hand-counting or additional audits shall be conducted as prescribed by the [Chief Election Official].

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including:

(1) Detailed reconciliation procedures;

(2) Formats for the Absentee Ballot Final Report; and

(3) Standards for random selection and expansion of hand-count checks.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 2: Discretionary Certification and Election Official Protection Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Discretionary Certification and Election Official Protection Act."

SECTION 2. CERTIFICATION DEFINED AS A DISCRETIONARY DUTY.

(A) Certification of election results by canvassing boards, county or municipal governing bodies, or the [Chief Election Official] is a discretionary duty, not a purely ministerial act.

(B) Election officials responsible for certification shall withhold certification if:

(1) Required reconciliation procedures have not been completed; or

(2) Material discrepancies or unresolved irregularities remain that call into question the accuracy of the results.

SECTION 3. PRECONDITIONS FOR CERTIFICATION.

(A) Prior to certification, the certifying authority shall affirmatively determine and confirm that:

(1) All legally required reconciliation, verification, and chain-of-custody processes have been completed; and

(2) The results to be certified accurately reflect the ballots lawfully cast, subject only to any disclosed unresolved discrepancies.

(B) The certifying authority shall document its findings regarding completion of required procedures and the status of any discrepancies in a written certification report, which shall be an election record.

SECTION 4. HANDLING OF UNRESOLVED DISCREPANCIES.

(A) If specific material discrepancies exist that cannot be resolved despite reasonable efforts, the

certifying authority may proceed with certification only if it:

(1) Identifies in writing the specific unresolved discrepancies;

(2) Explains why they cannot be resolved; and

(3) Assesses and states whether, in its judgment, the discrepancies are likely to affect the outcome of any contest.

(B) The written explanation of unresolved discrepancies shall accompany the certification and shall be made available to the public.

SECTION 5. AUTHORITY TO DELAY CERTIFICATION.

(A) The certifying authority may delay certification of any election for a reasonable period necessary to:

(1) Complete required reconciliation, verification, and audit procedures; or

(2) Investigate and resolve material discrepancies or irregularities.

(B) Standards for delay shall include:

(1) A requirement that the basis for delay be documented in writing;

(2) A requirement that the authority specify what steps are being taken to resolve outstanding issues; and

(3) A requirement that updated status reports be made available to the public at reasonable intervals.

(C) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit indefinite delay or to alter statutory deadlines without express legislative authority, but courts may extend deadlines when necessary to ensure accurate results.

SECTION 6. PROTECTIONS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS.

(A) An election official or member of a canvassing board shall not be subject to civil or criminal liability solely for refusing or failing to certify election results that the official reasonably believes are inaccurate or incomplete due to unresolved reconciliation or verification issues, provided that the official:

(1) Acts in good faith;

(2) Documents the reasons for refusal or delay in writing; and

(3) Cooperates with lawful efforts to resolve outstanding issues.

(B) Nothing in this section shall shield an official from liability for willful misconduct, fraud, or intentional violation of law.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules to implement this Act, including guidance on documentation, standards for determining material discrepancies, and model forms for certification reports.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to certifications of elections held on or after that date.

Model Law 3: Independent Post-Election Procedures and Results Audit Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Independent Post-Election Procedures and Results Audit Act.”

SECTION 2. INDEPENDENT POST-ELECTION, POST-CERTIFICATION AUDITS.

(A) After certification of each general election, and for other elections as prescribed by law, an independent post-election audit shall be conducted to evaluate both:

(1) Compliance with election procedures, including chain-of-custody, ballot handling, voter verification, and related processes; and

(2) The accuracy of reported results, including vote counts and tabulation accuracy.

(B) Audits shall be conducted by:

(1) The State Auditor;

(2) A Legislative Audit Bureau; or

(3) Another independent auditing entity designated by law, which is organizationally and operationally independent from the election offices and officials who administered the election.

SECTION 3. INDEPENDENCE AND ACCESS.

(A) Election offices or officials that administered the election shall not conduct or control the post-certification audit of their own work, but shall cooperate fully with the independent auditors.

(B) Independent auditors shall have access to all election records necessary to perform the audit, including:

(1) Original documents;

(2) Chain-of-custody records for ballots and equipment;

(3) Reconciliation logs;

(4) System logs and configuration records; and

(5) Any other records required to assess procedural compliance and accuracy.

(C) Election officials and employees shall be required by law to cooperate with the auditors, and penalties may be imposed for willful failure or refusal to cooperate, as provided by statute.

SECTION 4. AUDITOR QUALIFICATIONS AND SCOPE.

(A) Auditors shall be trained in, or assisted by personnel with expertise in:

(1) The state election code;

(2) Applicable federal election laws and regulations; and

(3) The rules and procedures required by law for administration of elections.

(B) The audit scope shall include, at a minimum:

(1) Review of compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements;

(2) Evaluation of chain-of-custody and record-keeping practices;

(3) Testing or review of tabulation accuracy and reporting; and

(4) Assessment of any discrepancies or irregularities identified during or after the election.

SECTION 5. DOCUMENTATION, FINDINGS, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION.

(A) Auditors shall document each step in the audit process and retain working papers as part of the permanent audit file.

(B) The audit report shall:

(1) Describe the procedures performed;

(2) Summarize findings regarding compliance and accuracy;

(3) Identify any deficiencies or violations; and

(4) Recommend corrective actions and timelines for implementation.

(C) Jurisdictions audited shall be required to respond in writing, indicating the steps they will take to implement recommended corrective actions and the timelines for doing so.

(D) Follow-up reporting on implementation of corrective actions shall be made to the [State Auditor / Legislative Audit Bureau] and, as appropriate, to the legislature or public oversight bodies.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC INPUT AND TRANSPARENCY.

(A) Before commencement of each post-election audit, the auditing entity shall provide public notice of the proposed scope and invite public comment and input for a reasonable period.

(B) A preliminary audit report, including detailed audit findings, shall be made public before the report is finalized, with an opportunity for public comment on issues not yet addressed by the auditors.

(C) Auditors shall consider public comments and, where appropriate, address them in the final report or in an accompanying response document.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [State Auditor / Legislative Audit Bureau], in consultation with the [Chief Election Official], may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including standards for sampling, documentation, and public participation.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and the first audit cycle under this Act shall apply to elections held on or after that date.

Appendix

Appendix B.7 – Ensure Transparency of Election Records lection Records and Public Access

KEY RESOURCES

- **NVRA and HAVA public-records concepts** (see Policy I U.S. Code citations). https://uscode.house.gov
- **EAC** – general guidance and resources on election administration and records. https://www.eac.gov
- Your state's public-records/open-records statute (to be inserted).
- Examples of proactive transparency portals or statewide election-results sites from peer states, to be added as your team selects preferred models.

COURT DECISIONS

- **Cast Vote Records:** [J-45-2025] [MO: McCaffery, J.] IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA MIDDLE DISTRICT HEATHER HONEY v. LYCOMING COUNTY OFFICES OF

STATE STATUTES AND MODELS

- **South Dakota SB 114** – Publication of ballot images and CVR. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26563

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - Audit Election Irregularities Act: https://alec.org/model-policy/audit-election-irregularities-act/
  - Procedural Election Audits Act: https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-initiatives-act-2/
- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - Procedural Election Audits Act: https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Election-Audits_v3.pdf

PRINCIPLE VIII.

Protecting Deployed Military Voters, Separate from Overseas Civilians

Principle VIII Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Separate Procedures for Registration / Voting by Overseas Civilian Citizens from Deployed Military

1. Establish distinct and separate tracks for accessing the UOCAVA process for military voters (active-duty, including domestic and overseas) and civilian overseas voters, with tailored procedures, documentation, and ballot access rules to reflect differing logistical needs and verification requirements of each category
2. Establish a single statewide point of contact in the office of the chief election official of the state for all UOCAVA voters, who shall be responsible for:
    - Issuance of guidelines for registration and voting under UOCAVA
    - Receipt and processing of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), and verification of identity, citizenship and eligibility to vote in the State
    - Issuance and receipt/return/processing of absentee ballots
3. The chief state election official shall maintain records for all UOCAVA voters which shall include the FPCAs, ballots, envelopes, documents required for verification of eligibility, and other records, which shall be retained and published in accordance with applicable election records requirements.
4. No UOCAVA ballots may be hand-delivered but must be returned to the chief state election official in accordance with the provisions of UOCAVA and state law.

B. For Military: Apply to All Active-Duty Deployments, Not Just Overseas

1. Extend UOCAVA voting process to all active-duty military voters and their dependents, including those deployed domestically in another state but who meet eligibility requirements for voting in the State of prior residence under federal law:
    - Active-duty status
    - U.S. citizen
    - Prior state residency (required under UOCAVA)
    - Satisfaction of state voter registration requirements
2. Allow military voters to maintain voting residence in the state despite deployment location, without requiring current overseas status.
3. Provide expedited and flexible processes for domestic deployments similar to overseas, recognizing unique barriers faced by service members.

C. *For Military: Allow Registration / Voting if Prior Resident, Registration in State*

1. Conform state law to federal statutes, which define a uniformed services member as a 'member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of such active duty, is absent from the place of residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote';
2. Uniformed services definition for purposes of this State shall include:

    - A member of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps., Space Force or Coast Guard of the United States or a member of the National Guard or member of the merchant marine of the United States.
    - Is a spouse or dependent of any of the above, is a United States Citizen on active duty.
    - Maintains a voting residence in the state and otherwise satisfies the voter eligibility of the state.

D. *For Military: Allow Email/Fax of Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA) and Ballots*

1. Authorize email or fax submission of Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA) and ballots to / from military voters and their dependents, facilitating access under all deployment constraints, in particular in cases where physical mail would render impossible the timely delivery of a completed absentee ballot due to deployment location or circumstances.
2. Require secure handling and retention of electronic submissions, including affidavits and copies of citizenship records, voter photo identification and other documents
3. Require all UOCAVA ballots to be received by the close of the polls on Election Day, with procedures for ensuring deployed military voters and their dependents have adequate notice of instructions for submitting the FCPA, the receipt and return of absentee ballots by the deadline for such ballots to be received and counted.

E. *For Military: Require Copy of Military ID and Valid US Passport or other Proof of Citizenship*

1. Mandate submission with the FPCA of a copy of military ID and valid U.S. passport or other proof of US citizenship for military voter registration and ballot return.
2. Provide instructions for inclusion on the FPCA the evidence or indicia of prior state residency.
3. Establish standards for rejection of FPCA applications or ballots lacking documentation required for verification of residency and citizenship and notice to military voters and their dependents of verification requirements.

F. *For Military: If No Prior Registration / Residency in State, Allow Voting in District of Columbia*

1. Congress should provide for registration of military voters with no prior state residency in any state to register to vote in the District of Columbia
2. States shall coordinate with the District of Columbia election authorities to refer military voters who do not qualify to vote in this State, to become registered to vote in the District of Columbia and to vote absentee there, ensuring military voters are not disenfranchised.

G. For Civilians: Eligibility to Register and Vote

1. The UOCAVA voting process shall be available to overseas civilian citizens who meet eligibility requirements for voting in this State, to-wit:
   - An individual who is a U.S. citizen
   - Was last domiciled or registered to vote in the state
   - Meets all other voter registration requirements in the state, including residency
   - Temporarily resides outside of the United States

H. For Civilians: Allow Registration / Voting if Prior Resident, Registration in State

1. Conform state law to federal law which defines an overseas citizen voter as a person who resides outside the United States and is qualified to vote in the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States or a person who resides outside the United States and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States.
2. The chief state election official shall be responsible for verification of the eligibility of all overseas civilian citizens' to register and vote in the State.

I. For Civilians: Allow Email/Fax of Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA) and Ballots

1. Authorize email or fax submission of Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA) and ballots to / from overseas citizen voters.
2. Require secure handling and retention of electronic submissions, including affidavits and copies of citizenship records, voter photo identification and other documents
3. Require all UOCAVA ballots to be received by the close of the polls on Election Day, with procedures for ensuring overseas voters have adequate notice of instructions for submitting the FCPA, the receipt and return of absentee ballots by the deadline for such ballots to be received and counted.

J. For Civilians: Require Copy of Valid US Passport or other Proof of Citizenship and Proof of Overseas Residency

1. Mandate submission with the FPCA of a copy of a valid U.S. passport or other proof of US citizenship for both voter registration and for ballot return.
2. Mandate submission of proof of overseas residency, by inclusion of a lease or rental agreement or other proof of residency outside the United States
3. Provide instructions for inclusion on the FPCA the evidence or indicia of prior state residency.
4. Establish standards for rejection of FPCA applications or ballots lacking documentation required for verification of residency and citizenship and notice to overseas voters of verification requirements.

K. For Civilians: If No Prior Registration / Residency in State, Allow Voting in District of Columbia

1. Congress should provide for registration of overseas voters with no prior state residency in any state to register to vote in the District of Columbia.

Model Laws for Principle VIII. Protecting Deployed Military Voters, Separate from Overseas Civilians

Deployed military voters face unique barriers to voting and should receive strong, streamlined protections that reflect their service, while overseas civilians are handled under a distinct, clearly verified process. This Principle provides Model Laws to centralize UOCAVA administration at the state level, extend robust protections and flexible transmission options to uniformed service members and their dependents, and separately define and verify eligibility for overseas civilian citizens. Together, these measures help ensure that military voters can cast timely, counted ballots without being lost in civilian overseas systems, and that all U.S. citizens abroad vote under clear, secure rules.

Index – Model Laws for Principle VIII: Military and Overseas Voters

1. **UOCAVA Statewide Administration and Records Act**
Creates a single statewide point of contact in the chief election office for all UOCAVA voters, sets documentation and records requirements, and directs that UOCAVA ballots be returned through prescribed mail or secure electronic means rather than third-party hand-delivery to polling places.

2. **Uniformed Services and Dependents Voting Protection Act**

Extends UOCAVA-style protections to all active-duty deployments (domestic and overseas), aligns state definitions with federal law, authorizes email and fax transmission of FPCAs and ballots where permitted, requires proof of identity and citizenship, and directs non-resident military voters toward District of Columbia registration when they lack state residency.

3. **Overseas Civilian Citizens Voting Protection Act**

Defines eligibility and verification standards for overseas civilian citizens, requires state-level verification of citizenship and prior domicile, authorizes email and fax for FPCAs and ballots where allowed, requires a U.S. passport plus proof of overseas residency, and encourages D.C. registration when no state residency exists.

Model Law 1: UOCAVA Statewide Administration and Records Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "UOCAVA Statewide Administration and Records Act."

SECTION 2. SINGLE STATEWIDE POINT OF CONTACT FOR UOCAVA VOTERS.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall serve as, or shall designate within the chief election office, a single statewide point of contact for all voters covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), including uniformed services voters, their eligible dependents, and overseas civilian citizens.

(B) The statewide UOCAVA point of contact shall be responsible for:

(1) Issuing guidelines for registration and voting under UOCAVA;

(2) Receiving and processing Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs);

(3) Verifying the identity, citizenship, and eligibility of UOCAVA applicants to vote in this State; and

(4) Issuing, receiving, and processing absentee ballots for UOCAVA voters, in coordination with local election officials.

SECTION 3. RECORDS AND RETENTION FOR UOCAVA VOTERS.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] shall maintain records for all UOCAVA voters, including:

(1) FPCAs and associated documentation;

(2) Copies of ballots issued and any ballot envelopes;

(3) Documents used to verify eligibility, identity, citizenship, residency, and prior state domicile; and

(4) Logs or databases tracking transmission and return of ballots and related communications.

(B) Records shall be retained and published or made available in accordance with state election-records and public-records laws, consistent with protection of sensitive personal information.

SECTION 4. RETURN OF UOCAVA BALLOTS.

(A) UOCAVA ballots shall be returned in the manner prescribed by UOCAVA and this State's election laws, including return by mail or secure electronic means as authorized under the Uniformed Services and Dependents Voting Protection Act and the Overseas Civilian Citizens Voting Protection Act.

(B) UOCAVA ballots shall not be hand-delivered by third parties directly to polling places; they shall be returned to the [Chief Election Official] or designated UOCAVA office in accordance with law.

SECTION 5. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including procedures for coordination with local election officials and for secure handling of UOCAVA records.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

Model Law 2: Uniformed Services and Dependents Voting Protection Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Uniformed Services and Dependents Voting Protection Act."

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

(A) For purposes of this Act, "uniformed services voter" means a member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of such active duty, is absent from the place of residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote, consistent with federal law.

(B) For purposes of this State, "uniformed services" includes:

(1) Members of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, and Coast Guard of the United States;

(2) Members of the National Guard; and

(3) Members of the merchant marine of the United States.

(C) "Dependent" means the spouse or eligible dependent of a uniformed services voter who is a United States citizen, maintains a voting residence in this State, and otherwise satisfies voter-eligibility requirements.

SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY TO ALL ACTIVE-DUTY DEPLOYMENTS.

(A) The State shall extend UOCAVA procedures and protections to all active-duty uniformed services voters and their dependents who are otherwise eligible to vote in this State, including those deployed domestically in another state, provided they:

(1) Are on active duty status;

(2) Are United States citizens;

(3) Had a prior voting residence or domicile in this State as required under federal law; and

(4) Satisfy the State's registration and eligibility requirements.

(B) Military voters may maintain voting residence in this State despite deployment location, whether inside or outside the United States, without being required to establish or maintain an overseas physical presence.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall provide expedited and flexible processes for domestic deployments similar to those available for overseas deployments, recognizing the unique barriers faced by service members.

SECTION 4. REGISTRATION AND VOTING ELIGIBILITY.

(A) State law shall conform to federal law defining a uniformed services member for voting purposes, so that a member on active duty who is absent due to such duty from their residence in this State may register and vote in this State as a UOCAVA voter.

(B) A uniformed services voter or eligible dependent may register and vote in this State if:

(1) The voter is a U.S. citizen;

(2) The voter was last domiciled or registered to vote in this State before leaving; and

(3) The voter meets all other voter-registration requirements of this State, other than physical presence at the time of registration or voting.

SECTION 5. FPCA SUBMISSION; EMAIL AND FAX TRANSMISSION.

(A) Uniformed services voters and their eligible dependents may submit Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) by mail, email, or fax to the statewide UOCAVA point of contact.

(B) The State may transmit blank ballots to uniformed services voters and their dependents by mail, secure email, or fax where permitted by law, particularly in cases where physical mail would make timely voting impossible due to deployment location or circumstances.

(C) All electronic submissions shall be handled and retained securely, including affidavits and copies of citizenship records, voter photo identification, and other required documents.

(D) All UOCAVA ballots submitted by uniformed services voters and dependents must be received by the close of polls on Election Day to be counted, and the [Chief Election Official] shall provide clear instructions and timelines to allow timely return.

SECTION 6. PROOF OF IDENTITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND RESIDENCY.

(A) With each FPCA submitted by a uniformed services voter, the applicant shall provide:

(1) A copy of a valid military identification card; and

(2) A copy of a valid United States passport or other acceptable proof of U.S. citizenship as defined by state law.

(B) The FPCA or accompanying documentation shall include evidence or indicia of prior residency or domicile in this State, such as a prior address, voter registration, or other proof.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish standards for rejection of FPCA applications or ballots lacking documentation required to verify residency and citizenship, and shall provide notice to affected voters of the requirements and any deficiencies, with reasonable opportunity to cure where time permits.

SECTION 7. MILITARY VOTERS WITHOUT STATE RESIDENCY; DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OPTION.

(A) The Legislature urges Congress to provide for registration of uniformed services voters who have no prior residency in any state to register and vote in the District of Columbia.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall coordinate, to the extent permitted by law, with District of Columbia election authorities to refer uniformed services voters who do not qualify to vote in this State, so that such voters may register and vote absentee in the District of Columbia and are not disenfranchised.

SECTION 8. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including secure electronic transmission procedures and documentation standards.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

Model Law 3: Overseas Civilian Citizens Voting Protection Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Overseas Civilian Citizens Voting Protection Act."

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY.

(A) For purposes of this Act, an "overseas civilian citizen voter" is a U.S. citizen who resides outside the United States and is qualified to vote in this State as:

(1) A person who was last domiciled or registered to vote in this State before leaving the United States; or

(2) A person who resides outside the United States and, but for such residence, would be qualified to vote in this State as the last place of domicile before leaving the United States, consistent with federal law.

(B) The UOCAVA voting process shall be available to overseas civilian citizens who:

(1) Are United States citizens;

(2) Were last domiciled or registered to vote in this State; and

(3) Meet all other voter-registration requirements of this State, except current physical presence.

SECTION 3. CHIEF STATE ELECTION OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

(A) The [Chief Election Official], acting as the statewide UOCAVA point of contact, shall be responsible for verifying the eligibility of all overseas civilian citizens to register and vote under this Act.

(B) Verification shall include confirmation of:

(1) U.S. citizenship;

(2) Prior residency or domicile in this State; and

(3) Current overseas residence.

SECTION 4. FPCA SUBMISSION; EMAIL AND FAX TRANSMISSION.

(A) Overseas civilian citizens may submit Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) by mail, email, or fax to the statewide UOCAVA point of contact.

(B) The State may transmit blank ballots to overseas civilian citizens by mail, secure email, or fax where permitted by law, particularly when physical mail would prevent timely voting due to the voter's location.

(C) All electronic submissions shall be handled and retained securely, including affidavits and copies of citizenship records, voter photo identification, and other required documents.

(D) All UOCAVA ballots submitted by overseas civilian citizens must be received by the close of polls on Election Day to be counted, and the [Chief Election Official] shall provide clear instructions and timelines to allow timely return.

SECTION 5. PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP AND OVERSEAS RESIDENCY.

(A) With each FPCA submitted by an overseas civilian citizen, the applicant shall provide:

(1) A copy of a valid United States passport or other acceptable proof of U.S. citizenship as defined by state law; and

(2) Proof of overseas residency, such as a lease or rental agreement, utility bill, employment contract, or equivalent documentation demonstrating residence outside the United States.

(B) The FPCA or accompanying documents shall include evidence or indicia of prior state residency or domicile in this State.

(C) The [Chief Election Official] shall establish standards for rejection of FPCA applications or ballots lacking documentation required to verify residency and citizenship, and shall provide notice to affected voters of the requirements and any deficiencies, with reasonable opportunity to cure where time permits.

SECTION 6. OVERSEAS VOTERS WITHOUT STATE RESIDENCY; DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OPTION.

(A) The Legislature urges Congress to provide for registration of overseas voters who have no prior residency in any state to register and vote in the District of Columbia.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall, to the extent permitted by law, refer overseas voters who do not qualify to vote in this State to the District of Columbia election authorities so that they may register and vote absentee there and are not disenfranchised.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Chief Election Official] may promulgate rules necessary to implement this Act, including secure electronic transmission procedures, documentation standards, and coordination with federal and District of Columbia authorities.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

Appendix

Appendix B.8 – Protect Deployed Military Voters, Separate from Overseas Civilians

CORE FEDERAL LAW AND GUIDANCE

- **Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)** – UOCAVA overview. https://www.fvap.gov/info/laws/uocava

- **Department of Justice (DOJ)** – UOCAVA enforcement page. https://www.justice.gov/crt/uniformed-and-overseas-citizens-absentee-voting-act
- **FVAP** – About page (administration of UOCAVA). https://www.fvap.gov/info/about
- **FVAP** – "How Election Officials Serve UOCAVA Voters." https://www.fvap.gov/eo/overview
- **EAC** – fact sheet "Serving UOCAVA Voters." https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/UOCAVA_Fact_Sheet_V2.1_Final_508.pdf
- **Never- Resided clarification** – omb.report/icr/202608-0704-009/doc/original/171967300. pdf

COURT DECISIONS

- **North Carolina:** Never resided. https://www.democracydocket.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2026-06-09-Order.pdf
- **Virginia:** Pending, never resided. https://www.democracydocket.com/cases/virginia-overseas-voters-challenge/
- **Nebraska:** Pending, never resided.
- ***RNC, Riggins, Dingman v. Evnen*** (new federal filing)

STATE MODELS

- **Pennsylvania Uniformed and Overseas Military Overseas Voting Act (UMOVA)** (Title 25). https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/25/25.HTM
- **Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3511** (including § 3511.021). https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/chapter-3511
- **Arizona military/overseas absentee** (*e.g.*, A.R.S. § 16-547). https://www.azleg.gov/ars/16/00547.htm
- **Alabama military absentee** (*e.g.*, § 17-11-49). https://dev.alison.legislature.state.al.us/code-of-alabama?section=17-11-49
- **Local practice example –** Okaloosa County, FL, military/overseas voter guidance. https://www.voteokaloosa.gov/voters/military-overseas-voters/

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Never Resided Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-The-Never-Resided-Act_v4.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - The Never Resided Act https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-initiatives-act-2-2-2/

PRINCIPLE IX.

Stop Billionaire-Concocted Election Schemes

Principle IX Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Prohibit Ranked Choice Voting, National Popular Vote (to Replace the Electoral College) and Other Artificial Voting Methods

1. Ban ranked choice voting (RCV) in all elections (primary, general, special) for local, state, or federal offices, prohibiting systems that allow ranking multiple candidates or reallocating votes.
2. Prohibit participation in the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact or any similar reforms that alter the Electoral College by awarding electors based on national popular vote rather than state results.
3. Broadly target and ban other "artificial or experimental" voting methods that dilute voter intent or alter constitutional structures, including any that conflict with one-person-one-vote principles.
4. Ban open primaries and jungle primaries

B. Protect One Person, One Vote, and America's Constitutional Framework in Voting and Elections

1. Reaffirm and protect the one-person-one-vote principle by prohibiting systems that allow multiple votes per office or vote transfers/reallocations, ensuring each voter casts only one vote per position without dilution.
2. Preserve the Electoral College's constitutional framework by barring state laws or compacts that undermine its federalist design, ensuring balanced representation across states.
3. Enforce prohibitions through investigations, injunctive relief, and penalties, voiding any conflicting local ordinances or elections conducted under banned methods.

Model Laws for Principle IX. Stop Billionaire-Concocted Election Schemes

Some election schemes are designed and funded outside the normal democratic process and can undermine the principle that each citizen casts one clear, equal vote under a familiar, constitutional framework. This Principle provides Model Laws to prevent the adoption of ranked-choice and similar experimental voting methods, to keep the State out of national-popular-vote compacts, and to preserve straightforward one-person-one-vote elections and traditional party-nomination structures. Together, these measures help ensure that core election rules cannot be quietly transformed by novel systems that confuse voters, dilute votes, or bypass the Electoral College.

Index – Model Laws for Principle IX: One Person, One Vote

1. One Person, One Vote and Election Method Integrity Act
Bans ranked-choice and similar "experimental" voting methods, bars participation in the National Popular Vote interstate compact, prohibits open and jungle/top-two primaries, and enforces a one-person-one-vote standard with remedies and penalties for elections conducted under prohibited schemes.

Model Laws: One Person, One Vote and Election Method Integrity Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "One Person, One Vote and Election Method Integrity Act."

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

(A) "Ranked-choice voting" or "RCV" means any method of casting and tabulating ballots that allows a voter to rank multiple candidates for the same office in order of preference and that reallocates or transfers votes based on those rankings in multiple rounds.

(B) "Open primary" means a primary election in which any registered voter may vote in any party's primary without being a member of that party.

(C) "Jungle primary" or "top-two/top-four primary" means a primary election in which all candidates, regardless of party, appear on the same ballot and the top vote-getters advance to the general election.

(D) "National Popular Vote Interstate Compact" means any interstate compact or agreement that attempts to allocate a State's presidential electors based on the national popular vote for President rather than the popular vote within this State.

(E) "Artificial or experimental voting method" means any voting or tabulation system that:

(1) Allows a voter to cast more than one effective vote for a given office;

(2) Reallocates or transfers votes among candidates after ballots are cast; or

(3) Otherwise alters the constitutionally grounded framework of one-person-one-vote or the federal Electoral College.

SECTION 3. ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE REQUIREMENT.

(A) For each office on the ballot, each qualified voter shall be entitled to cast one vote, and each vote shall be counted as a single, undiluted expression of the voter's choice.

(B) No election method shall be used that allows a voter to cast, transfer, or have counted more than one effective vote for the same office, or that reallocates votes among candidates after the ballot is cast.

SECTION 4. PROHIBITION OF RANKED-CHOICE VOTING AND SIMILAR METHODS.

(A) Ranked-choice voting is prohibited in all elections held in this State, including primary, general, special, and local elections.

(B) No jurisdiction within this State may adopt or use any voting method that:

(1) Allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference for the same office; or

(2) Uses multi-round tabulation, elimination, transfer, or reallocation of votes based on preferences.

(C) Any law, charter provision, ordinance, or regulation authorizing ranked-choice voting or a substantially similar method is void and of no effect on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 5. PRESERVATION OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE; PROHIBITION OF

NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE COMPACTS.

(A) This State shall not enter into, remain in, or give effect to the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact or any similar compact or agreement under which the State's presidential electors are awarded based on the national popular vote rather than the popular vote within this State.

(B) No statute, compact, agreement, or regulation may allocate the State's presidential electors in a manner that conflicts with the constitutional structure of the Electoral College or with the one-person-one-vote principle as applied within this State.

(C) Any attempted entry into such a compact or agreement shall be null and void and shall not bind this State or its officials.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITION OF OPEN AND JUNGLE PRIMARIES.

(A) Primary elections for partisan offices shall be conducted using closed or party-controlled nomination processes as provided by law; open primaries and jungle or top-two/top-four primaries are prohibited.

(B) No jurisdiction within this State may conduct a primary election in which:

(1) Voters who are not members of a party select that party's nominees; or

(2) All candidates for an office, regardless of party, appear on the same primary ballot and a fixed number of top candidates advance to the general election without regard to party nomination rules.

(C) Any conflicting local ordinance, charter provision, or regulation authorizing open or jungle primaries is preempted and void.

SECTION 7. PROHIBITION OF OTHER ARTIFICIAL OR EXPERIMENTAL VOTING METHODS.

(A) No election in this State may be conducted using any artificial or experimental voting method that:

(1) Dilutes voter intent by allowing multiple effective votes per office;

(2) Transfers or reallocates votes after ballots are cast; or

(3) Alters the State's constitutional or statutory framework in a manner inconsistent with one-person-one-vote or the federal structure of presidential elections.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] may issue guidance identifying specific methods that violate this section, and such guidance shall be considered persuasive authority for courts and local jurisdictions.

SECTION 8. ENFORCEMENT, REMEDIES, AND PENALTIES.

(A) The [Attorney General] and [Chief Election Official] shall have authority to investigate alleged violations of this Act and to bring civil actions to enjoin the use or implementation of prohibited election methods.

(B) Any citizen, voter, or candidate may seek declaratory or injunctive relief in a court of competent jurisdiction to prevent an election from being conducted under a method prohibited by this Act, or to challenge an election conducted in violation of this Act.

(C) Courts may:

(1) Enjoin the use of prohibited methods;

(2) Order corrective measures or new elections where necessary; and

(3) Award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs to prevailing plaintiffs.

(D) Election officials or jurisdictions that knowingly adopt or administer an election using a prohibited

method may be subject to civil penalties as provided by law.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The provisions of this Act are severable. If any provision or its application is held invalid, the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter__* of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed or preempted to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to elections scheduled or conducted on or after that date.

Appendix

Appendix B.9 – Stop Billionaire-Concocted Election Schemes

PRIVATE FUNDING BANS

- **NCSL** – "Prohibiting Private Funding of Elections." https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/prohibiting-private-funding-of-elections
- **Election Innovation Lab** – overview of private-funding bans. https://electioninnovation.org/research/overview-of-private-funding-bans/
- **Ballotpedia** – laws governing private funding of elections. https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_governing_the_private_funding_of_elections
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)** – "Banning Private Funding and Influence in Election Administration Act." https://alec.org/model-policy/banning-private-funding-and-influence-in-election-administration-act/

FOREIGN FUNDING IN BALLOT MEASURES

- **Ballotpedia** – foreign spending in ballot-measure campaigns. https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_governing_foreign_spending_in_ballot_measure_campaigns

RANKED-CHOICE VOTING BANS

- **Ballotpedia news** – state ranked-choice voting (RCV) bans (example: Indiana becomes 19th state to ban RCV). https://news.ballotpedia.org/2026/03/03/the-ballot-bulletin-indiana-becomes-the-19th-state-to-ban-ranked-choice-voting/
- NCSL / Ballotpedia overview pages on RCV adoption and repeal (to be added as your team selects citations).

STATE STATUTES AND RULES

- **Iowa:** https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGI/91/attachments/HF2601.html

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - No Taxpayer Money for Lobbying by Political Subdivisions Act https://alec.org/model-policy/no-taxpayer-money-for-lobbying-by-political-subdivisions-act/
  - Prohibiting Foreign Funding from Ballot Measures Act https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-measures-act/
  - Protecting Election Administration from Private Funding and Influence Act

https://alec.org/model-policy/banning-private-funding-and-influence-in-election-administration-act/

- One Citizen, One Vote Act
  https://alec.org/model-policy/safeguard-american-votes-and-elections-act-save-act/
- Statement of Principles for Presidential Elections
  https://alec.org/model-policy/draft-statement-of-principles-for-presidential-elections/

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Zuck Bucks 2.0 Certification and Disclosures Act
    https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Zuck-Bucks_v2.pdf
  - The Stop Zuck Bucks 2.0 Act
    https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Stop-Zuck-Bucks-2.0_v3.pdf

PRINCIPLE X.

Citizen Standing to Enforce Election Laws, Appeal Administrative Decisions Under HAVA; Protect Laws from Partisan Legal Apparatus; Accountability & Penalties for Violations

Principle X Checklist for Election Integrity

A. Citizens Should Have Statutory Standing to Enforce Election Laws (Such as Appeal of HAVA Decisions), and to Enforce Election Statutes Against Officials Ignoring / Breaking Election Laws

1. Grant explicit statutory standing to any U.S. citizen, registered voter, or eligible elector in the state to bring civil actions to enforce election laws, including mandamus, injunctive relief, declaratory judgment, or other remedies against election officials or jurisdictions that fail to comply with statutory requirements.
2. Provide specific statutory authority for citizens to appeal or challenge to a court of competent jurisdiction (state or federal) administrative decisions made under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) or related federal-state election administration processes when such decisions violate state election integrity statutes, including proof-of-citizenship, voter ID, list maintenance, or verification requirements.
3. Authorize citizens to sue to compel enforcement of any election statute being ignored or violated by officials, including failures in voter roll maintenance, citizenship verification, absentee ballot procedures, transparency obligations, or technology/security standards.

B. Election Law Challenges Require Facts Establishing Particularized Injury to Individuals Impacted or to Be Impacted, Not Speculative Assertions by Groups

1. Require that any citizen-initiated challenge or lawsuit under election laws must plead and prove particularized, concrete injury to the plaintiff (*e.g.*, dilution of vote, denial of equal protection in verification processes, or direct impact from non-compliance affecting the plaintiff's vote or election integrity in their jurisdiction), consistent with applicable doctrines of standing.
2. Prohibit standing based solely on generalized grievances, ideological disagreement, or speculative future harm asserted by organizations or groups without individualized injury to named plaintiffs.
3. Mandate that challenges demonstrate a direct nexus between the alleged violation and the plaintiff's particularized harm, ensuring enforcement actions are targeted and non-frivolous.

C. Election Laws Should Be Self-Executing, with Severe Penalties for Violations

1. Declare election integrity statutes to be self-executing, providing for immediate penalties and recourse when statutes are disregarded, ignored, or violated.

2. Election laws should be written clearly and when changes are made in one section of the law, other sections must be revised to conform to current revisions.
3. Election laws should not require significant rulemaking or allow for substantial discretion by local officials who may alter or violate the meaning and intent of the legislature in the implementation of the election code.
4. Establish enforcement mechanisms for all provisions of the election code, conferring authority in designated law enforcement officials for investigating and pursuing violations.
5. Impose meaningful civil penalties on jurisdictions, election officials and their employees, for willful or negligent violations of law, including but not limited to failures to verify voter eligibility and citizenship, failure to maintain accurate voter rolls, denial of public access to the election process and/or election records, failure to conduct required audits, failure to ensure accuracy of election results, or who engage in a pattern of failure to follow applicable law or fail to enforce statutory requirements to ensure accurate elections.
6. Establish criminal penalties (*e.g.*, misdemeanor or felony depending on severity and intent) for knowing and/or willful violations that undermine election integrity, such as allowing ineligible voting or failure to establish protocols to identify and prohibit ineligible voting, destroying records, withholding public records, failing to enforce election results accuracy verification requirements, or other such failures or violations, with enhanced penalties for repeat or systemic offenses.

Model Laws for Principle X. Citizen Standing to Enforce Election Laws, Appeal Administrative Decisions Under HAVA; Protect Laws from Partisan Legal Apparatus; Accountability & Penalties for Violations

Election laws are only as strong as their enforcement mechanisms and the willingness of citizens and officials to apply them even when it is politically inconvenient. This Principle provides Model Laws to give individual citizens targeted standing to enforce election statutes and appeal certain administrative decisions, and to make the election code self-executing with clear civil and criminal penalties for officials who ignore or violate the law. Together, these measures help keep enforcement from being monopolized by partisan actors, ensure courts can hear concrete election-law disputes, and create real consequences for noncompliance.

Index – Model Laws for Principle X: Enforcement, Standing, and Penalties

1. Establish Standing to Challenge Election Laws and Standard of Review
2. Citizen Standing for Emergency Election Enforcement Act
3. Self Executing Election Code and Penalties
4. Election Integrity Administrative Complaint and Appeal Act

Model Law 1: An Act to Establish Standing to Challenge Election Laws and Standard of Review

SECTION 1

This Act is for the purpose of establishing requirements for standing to challenge election laws of this State and the standard of judicial review to be applied in consideration of such a challenge.

SECTION 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR STANDING

(A) Standing for purposes of challenging election laws in this State shall be vested in the following:

(i) An individual citizen who is a registered voter in the State,

(ii) A candidate for local, state, or federal office, or

(iii) A political party recognized in the State of (xxx).

(B) The Complaint challenging the election law, regulation or procedure shall be accompanied by a sworn affidavit attesting to the facts setting forth and describing the particularized injury suffered or to be suffered by the plaintiff resulting from the specific election law(s) complained of, which describes in detail the concrete and individualized harm to the plaintiff that is fairly traceable to application of a duly enacted election statute(s), procedure(s), or regulation(s) redressable by the Court as applied to the plaintiff.

(C) An action to challenge the duly-enacted election laws, regulations or procedures must be brought pursuant to this Act, and must plead and prove a particularized, concrete injury to the plaintiff and the specific election laws creating the alleged injury, including but not limited to:

(a) dilution or impairment of the plaintiff's vote or voting rights, or

(b) other direct and concrete harm to the plaintiff's rights or participation in the election process resulting from the election law(s) at issue.

(D) Standing to challenge election laws shall not be conferred or assumed based on any partisan, ideological, or other affiliation of the plaintiff, or a speculative future harm asserted without specific individualized injury to the named plaintiff.

SECTION 3: NOTICE TO LEGISLATURE OF A CITIZEN CHALLENGE TO ELECTION LAWS.

(A) The plaintiff shall give notice to the clerk of each House of the state legislature of the challenge, by serving a copy of the complaint on the clerk of each house of the legislature.

(B) The legislature may intervene as a matter of right in any election code challenge.

SECTION 4: STANDARD OF JUDICIAL REVIEW

(A) For purposes of determining whether to grant a citizen challenge to any provision of the election laws, the Court shall apply a rational basis test.

SECTION 5: TIMING OF CHALLENGE(S) TO ELECTION LAWS.

(A) Timing considerations. Actions under this Act seeking to enjoin, alter, or delay the enforcement of specific election law(s), regulation(s), or procedures must be filed sufficiently in advance of applicable election deadlines to permit orderly judicial resolution. Courts shall give substantial weight to election timelines and the potential for disruption when considering preliminary or injunctive relief.

(B) The provisions of this Act shall not be applicable to post-election certification contests and challenges filed pursuant to the [election code section(s) related to election contests or challenges)

(C) A court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to a prevailing party if the Court finds that the defendant knew or should have known that the election law, regulation or procedure was legally dubious in advance of the proceeding challenging the election law or, conversely, that the plaintiff's action was frivolous, vexatious, or brought in bad faith.

SECTION 6: SEVERABILITY; EFFECTIVE DATE.

(A) The provisions of this Act are severable. If any provision of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions of the election code or

applications of the code that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

(B) This Act shall take effect [upon passage / January 1 of the following year] and shall apply to actions filed on or after that date 21081–21085) and all provisions of the [State election code] governing elections, and any and all procedures, laws, and regulations related to the conduct of elections in this State.

(B) "Citizen" means a United States citizen who is a registered voter in this State.

SECTION 4: CITIZEN STANDING TO ENFORCE ELECTION LAWS.

(A) Any registered voter may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the election laws by filing an appeal from an adverse decision in an administrative complaint, as outlined in HAVA complaint procedures Model Law 3 or an emergency citizen enforcement action if the alleged violation impacts an upcoming election and time does not permit exhaustion of the State's administrative complaint process prior to filing an enforcement action directly with the court.

(B) Available causes of action include:

(a) mandamus to compel performance of a clear legal duty under the election laws;

(b) injunctive relief to prevent ongoing or threatened violations;

(c) declaratory judgment regarding the meaning or application of election statutes, and/or

(d) any other civil remedy authorized by law involving the enforcement of the election laws involving official(s) or jurisdiction(s) failure to comply with the election laws of the State.

(C) Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies Except in Emergency Circumstances. A citizen seeking the enforcement of election laws under this provision shall exhaust applicable administrative remedies prior to filing an appeal of the administrative complaint process described in Model Law 3 HAVA Complaint procedures and appeal process, provided that, if the alleged violation cannot be addressed utilizing the administrative complaint process within the time period prior to an election, a registered voter may file an enforcement action directly with the court without exhausting the otherwise available administrative remedies.

SECTION 5: REMEDIES, ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS.

(A) In an action under this Act, a court may order appropriate relief to remedy a violation and prevent recurrence, including declaratory or injunctive relief, writs of mandamus, orders directing corrective action in election procedures, and any other relief authorized by law.

(B) A court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to a prevailing citizen plaintiff where enforcement of election laws confers a substantial public benefit. For purposes of this subsection, "substantial public benefit" exists when the enforcement action corrects or prevents a violation of specific election code provision(s) that affect or risks affecting a substantial number of voters or the overall accuracy, security, integrity, or transparency of the election process, or that results in meaningful corrective action by election officials.

Model Law 2: Citizen Standing for Emergency Election Enforcement Act

SECTION 1.

Title This Act may be cited as the "Citizen Standing and Election Enforcement Act."

SECTION 2: PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to provide clear statutory standing for the registered voters of this State to enforce election laws in court and to secure effective remedies and fee-shifting where enforcement

confers a substantial public benefit.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(A) "Election laws" means Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. §§ 21081–21085) and all provisions of the [State election code] governing elections, and any and all procedures, laws, and regulations related to the conduct of elections in this State.

(B) "Citizen" means a United States citizen who is a registered voter in this State.

SECTION 4: CITIZEN STANDING TO ENFORCE ELECTION LAWS.

(A) Any registered voter may bring a civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the election laws by filing an appeal from an adverse decision in an administrative complaint, as outlined in HAVA complaint procedures Model Law 3 or an emergency citizen enforcement action if the alleged violation impacts an upcoming election and time does not permit exhaustion of the State's administrative complaint process prior to filing an enforcement action directly with the court.

(B) Available causes of action include:

(a) mandamus to compel performance of a clear legal duty under the election laws;

(b) injunctive relief to prevent ongoing or threatened violations;

(c) declaratory judgment regarding the meaning or application of election statutes, and/or

(d) any other civil remedy authorized by law involving the enforcement of the election laws involving official(s) or jurisdiction(s) failure to comply with the election laws of the State.

(C) Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies Except in Emergency Circumstances. A citizen seeking the enforcement of election laws under this provision shall exhaust applicable administrative remedies prior to filing an appeal of the administrative complaint process described in Model Law 3 HAVA Complaint procedures and appeal process, provided that, if the alleged violation cannot be addressed utilizing the administrative complaint process within the time period prior to an election, a registered voter may file an enforcement action directly with the court without exhausting the otherwise available administrative remedies.

SECTION 5: REMEDIES, ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS.

(A) In an action under this Act, a court may order appropriate relief to remedy a violation and prevent recurrence, including declaratory or injunctive relief, writs of mandamus, orders directing corrective action in election procedures, and any other relief authorized by law.

(B) A court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to a prevailing citizen plaintiff where enforcement of election laws confers a substantial public benefit. For purposes of this subsection, "substantial public benefit" exists when the enforcement action corrects or prevents a violation of specific election code provision(s) that affect or risks affecting a substantial number of voters or the overall accuracy, security, integrity, or transparency of the election process, or that results in meaningful corrective action by election officials.

Model Law 3: Self-Executing Election Code and Penalties Act

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Self-Executing Election Code and Penalties Act."

SECTION 2. ELECTION LAWS AS SELF-EXECUTING.

(A) Election-integrity statutes in this State are declared to be self-executing to the fullest extent permitted by law, meaning that:

(1) Their requirements apply directly to election officials and jurisdictions without the need for additional rulemaking; and

(2) Violations give rise to immediate remedies and penalties as provided by statute.

(B) Election statutes shall be written and interpreted so that, when changes are made in one section, other sections are revised or construed to conform to those revisions and to avoid gaps or conflicts that would impede enforcement.

(C) Election laws shall not be administered in a manner that relies on significant discretionary rulemaking by local officials to define or alter core statutory requirements, nor may local rules be used to contradict or undermine the intent of the legislature.

SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.

(A) Designated law-enforcement authorities, including the [Attorney General], [District Attorneys], and other officials specified by law, shall have authority to investigate and prosecute violations of election statutes.

(B) The [Chief Election Official] shall refer suspected violations to appropriate law-enforcement authorities and cooperate with investigations, while also exercising administrative enforcement powers, including decertification of non-compliant practices or equipment where authorized.

SECTION 4. CIVIL PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

(A) Meaningful civil penalties shall be imposed on jurisdictions, election officials, and employees who willfully or negligently violate election laws, including but not limited to:

(1) Failures to verify voter eligibility and citizenship;

(2) Failure to maintain accurate voter rolls;

(3) Denial of public access to election processes or records required by law;

(4) Failure to conduct required audits or reconciliations;

(5) Failure to ensure accuracy of reported election results; or

(6) Patterns or practices of failing to follow or enforce statutory requirements.

(B) Civil penalties may include:

(1) Fines assessed per violation or per day of non-compliance;

(2) Corrective orders and mandatory training; and

(3) Administrative sanctions, including removal from election-administration duties as permitted by law.

SECTION 5. CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR SERIOUS VIOLATIONS.

(A) Criminal penalties shall apply to knowing and/or willful violations that undermine election integrity, including but not limited to:

(1) Allowing ineligible persons to vote, or failing to establish and follow protocols to identify and prevent ineligible voting;

(2) Destroying, altering, concealing, or prematurely disposing of election records required to be retained;

(3) Withholding or falsifying public records related to elections;

(4) Intentionally failing to enforce verification or accuracy requirements that the official knows are necessary to ensure correct results; or

(5) Engaging in repeat or systemic violations that materially affect election integrity.

(B) Such offenses may be classified as misdemeanors or felonies depending on the severity, intent, and impact of the conduct, with enhanced penalties for repeat offenses or for violations affecting multiple jurisdictions or elections.

SECTION 6. COORDINATION WITH CITIZEN ENFORCEMENT.

(A) Nothing in this Act shall limit or diminish citizen standing or private enforcement rights granted under the Citizen Standing and Targeted Election Enforcement Act.

(B) Courts may consider the existence of ongoing criminal investigations or prosecutions when fashioning civil remedies but shall not deny citizens relief solely because criminal proceedings are available or pending.

SECTION 7. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(A) The [Attorney General], in consultation with the [Chief Election Official], may promulgate rules and issue guidance to implement this Act, including penalty schedules and investigative protocols.

(B) This Act shall be codified in [Title __, *Chapter*__ of the State Election Code], and any conflicting provision of law is repealed to the extent of the conflict.

(C) This Act shall take effect on [date], and shall apply to conduct occurring on or after that date.

Model Law 4: Election Integrity Administrative Complaint and Appeal Act

SECTION 1

This Act may be cited as the "Election Integrity Administrative Complaint and Appeals Act."

SECTION 2: PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a uniform, nondiscriminatory, and accessible state-based administrative complaint procedure that fulfills the requirements of Section 402 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. § 21112) ("HAVA") and

allows citizens of this State to seek timely remedies for alleged violations of Title III of HAVA and other provisions of the election laws of this State.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(A) "Complainant" means any person who is a registered voter in the State, a candidate for office, or a political party and believes a violation of the election laws has occurred, is occurring, or that a proposed procedure, if implemented, would constitute a violation of existing law.

(B) "Respondent" means any state or local election official, election authority, or other person or entity whose action or inaction is alleged to violate Title III of HAVA or state election law.

(C) "Title III of HAVA" means 52 U.S.C. §§ 21081–21085.

(D) "State election code" means all provisions of [State Code Title/Chapter] governing elections, administrative regulations and related election procedures.

SECTION 4: WHO MAY FILE; SCOPE.

(A) Any registered voter, any candidate for office, or a political party in this State who believes that there is a violation of:

(1) any provision of Title III of HAVA, including a violation that has occurred, is occurring, or that a proposed procedure, if implemented, would constitute a violation of Title III of HAVA, or

(2) any provision of the state election code, administrative regulations, or a procedure promulgated to implement the statute(s) or regulations may file a complaint under this Act.

SECTION 5: FILING A COMPLAINT.

(A) A complaint shall:

(1) be in writing;

(2) be signed and sworn to (or affirmed) under oath by the complainant;

(3) be notarized; and

(4) be filed with the [designated state election authority].

(B) The complaint shall include:

(1) the complainant's name and contact information, including the address where the complainant is registered to vote;

(2) a clear description of the alleged violation, including reference to the HAVA section or the specific state law provision(s) alleged to be violated, if known;

(3) the name of any respondent, of person(s) committing the violation, and

(4) the facts supporting the allegations and any supporting documentation reasonably available.

(C) A complaint shall be filed no later than one (1) year after the alleged violation or the election giving rise to the complaint, whichever is later.

SECTION 6: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS.

(A) Upon receipt, the [state authority] shall:

(1) assign a docket number;

(2) promptly notify the complainant of receipt and docketing of the complaint; and

(3) send the complaint to each respondent and allow thirty (30) days for a written response.

(B) The [state authority] shall attempt informal resolution when practicable.

(C) If not resolved informally, the [state authority] shall conduct a hearing on the record within sixty (60) days of filing, or as soon as practicable in light of election deadlines. The hearing shall be open to the public and allow presentation of evidence, witnesses, and representation by counsel.

(D) The [state authority] shall issue a written decision within thirty (30) days after the hearing, stating findings of fact, conclusions of law, and any remedy ordered, and shall post the decision on its public website.

SECTION 7: TIMELINESS OF ACTION ON COMPLAINT

(A) The State shall make a final determination with respect to a complaint prior to the expiration of the 90-day period which begins on the date the complaint is filed, unless the complainant consents to a longer period for making such a determination.

(B) If the State fails to meet the deadline applicable under paragraph (A), the complaint shall be resolved within 60 days under alternative dispute resolution procedures established for purposes of this section.

The record and other materials from any proceedings conducted under the complaint procedures established under this section shall be made available for use under the alternative dispute resolution procedures

SECTION 8: REMEDIES.

The [state authority] may order appropriate relief to remedy a violation and prevent recurrence.

SECTION 9: JUDICIAL APPEAL AND DE NOVO REVIEW

(A) Any party aggrieved by the final administrative

decision may appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction within thirty (30) days after entry of the decision in the administrative complaint.

(B) The appeal shall be heard de novo; the court may receive additional evidence and is not bound by the administrative findings.

(C) The court shall expedite the appeal and may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party if it finds the opposing party acted unreasonably or in bad faith.

SECTION 10: RULEMAKING AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

(A) The [state election authority] shall adopt rules and forms necessary to implement this Act and make complaint forms available online and in accessible formats.

(B) This Act shall take effect [upon passage / January 1 of the following year] and apply to complaints and appeals filed on or after that date.

Appendix

Appendix B.10 – Citizen Standing to Enforce Election Laws; Protect Laws from Left-Wing Legal Apparatus; Accountability and Penalties for Violations

PRIVATE ENFORCEMENT AND CITIZEN-SUIT MODELS

- **Congressional Research Service (CRS)** and legal scholarship on private rights of action and citizen-suit provisions (environmental, civil-rights, open-records analogues).
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Recent Developments in the Rights of Private Individuals to Enforce Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act* (Legal Sidebar LSB10954, updated February 20, 2024). https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/LSB/PDF/LSB10954/LSB10954.2.pdf
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *A Circuit Court Split Over Whether the Voting Rights Act Permits Minority Coalition Claims* (Legal Sidebar LSB11297, April 30, 2025) — analyzes private rights of action under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, including circuit court splits on standing and enforcement implications. https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/LSB11297
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Voter Registration: Recent Developments and Issues for Congress* (Report R46406, updated February 7, 2025) — covers NVRA implementation, voter registration enforcement challenges, and related federal-state issues. https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/2025-02-07_R46406_9ccdf79e5f3ebf7e2a8c849a0c1b7bc400d03ff1.html

- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Election Law and the Supreme Court in 2026: Pending Cases on Redistricting, Campaign Finance, and Mail-In Ballots* (Legal Sidebar LSB11419, April 15, 2026) — provides an overview of pending Supreme Court cases with implications for election enforcement and private actions. https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/LSB11419
- (Example placeholder citation: **CRS** "Recent Developments in the Rights of Private Individuals to Enforce Federal Law.")
- State-level citizen-suit provisions in non-election contexts (ethics, open meetings, public-records, environmental enforcement), to be filled in with your chosen state examples.

QUI TAM AND WHISTLEBLOWER-STYLE ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Qui Tam: The False Claims Act and Related Federal Statutes* (Report R40785, April 26, 2021) — explains qui tam actions (private citizens, known as relators, suing on behalf of the government to recover fraudulently obtained funds and sharing in the recovery), the structure of the False Claims Act, government intervention rights, relator incentives (15–30% of proceeds), dismissal standards, and related federal statutes. This is especially useful for readers unfamiliar with the term **qui tam.**
- https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R40785
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Qui Tam: An Abridged Look at the False Claims Act and Related Federal Statutes* (Report R40786, April 26, 2021) — a shorter version of the above for quick reference. https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R40786
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** Legal Standards for Government Dismissal of Qui Tam Cases Under the False Claims Act (Legal Sidebar LSB11047, September 27, 2023) — discusses standards for government dismissal of qui tam actions, including the Supreme Court's *Polansky* decision and implications for relator rights. https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/LSB11047.html
- Scholarship on qui tam litigation against government officials under the False Claims Act, including separation-of-powers analysis. https://ndlawreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Beck-07.pdf
- Additional commentary on government control over qui tam suits and relator-based enforcement. https://www.yalejreg.com/wp-content/uploads/07.-Li-Note.-Print.pdf
- Practice-oriented summaries of qui tam and whistleblower incentives. https://natlawreview.com/article/qui-tam-litigation-answers-frequent-whistleblower-questions

COURT DECISIONS

- **Bost vs IL Decision:** https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-568_gfbh.pdf

RECENT ELECTION-LAW ENFORCEMENT DEBATES

- Texas S.B. 1 bill text (2021) – enforcement and penalty structure for election offenses. https://legiscan.com/TX/text/SB1/id/2424492
- Litigation and advocacy materials critiquing S.B. 1's enforcement mechanisms, to anticipate arguments about private enforcement and penalties. https://www.aclu.org/press-releases/major-victory-in-lawsuit-against-texas-anti-voter-law-s-b-1

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - ✔ No Taxpayer Money for Lobbying by Political Subdivisions Act https://alec.org/model-policy/no-taxpayer-money-for-lobbying-by-political-subdivisions-act/
  - ✔ Prohibiting Foreign Funding from Ballot Measures Act

https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-measures-act/

- Protecting Election Administration from Private Funding and Influence Act
  https://alec.org/model-policy/banning-private-funding-and-influence-in-election-administration-act/
- One Citizen, One Vote Act
  https://alec.org/model-policy/safeguard-american-votes-and-elections-act-save-act/
- Election Crime Prosecution Act
  https://alec.org/model-policy/election-crime-prosecution-act/
- Statement of Principles for Presidential Elections
  https://alec.org/model-policy/draft-statement-of-principles-for-presidential-elections/

Appendix

Appendix A: How to Use This Resource

This guide is built for practical use at every stage of the legislative process. Whether evaluating current law or drafting new proposals, users can engage with the material in several ways:

- Compare existing state statutes to the model laws to identify gaps, conflicts, or opportunities for improvement.
- Use complete model legislation as the foundation for introducing comprehensive reform.
- Select specific sections to address targeted vulnerabilities or administrative challenges.

Combine provisions from multiple policy areas to develop tailored, state-specific solutions.

Each section aligns directly with a principle in the Election Integrity Policies Handbook, making it easy to move from policy rationale to legislative action. Users are encouraged to work with legislative counsel to ensure proper integration into existing statutes and compliance with state constitutional requirements.

Structure of the Guide

For each Election Integrity principle, this Resource Guide provides model legislative language, organized into clearly labeled sections that can stand alone or be combined. Draft provisions are written for immediate adaptation and introduction, supporting both comprehensive reform packages and targeted, incremental changes.

Quick Start

(This Resource Guide is designed to help legislators, staff, and citizen advocates move quickly from identifying an election integrity concern to developing actionable legislation.)

IDENTIFY THE ISSUE

Start by identifying the election process or vulnerability you want to address.

LOCATE THE RELEVANT PRINCIPLE

Use the Table of Contents or Master Index to find the corresponding Election Integrity principle.

REVIEW AVAILABLE MODELS

Within that section, review the model legislative options and select the approach that best fits your objective.

SELECT YOUR APPROACH

Choose how you want to proceed:

- Use a complete model bill for comprehensive reform
- Adopt specific sections to address targeted issues
- Combine provisions from multiple sections as needed

CUSTOMIZE FOR YOUR STATE

Insert state-specific terms where indicated by brackets (*e.g.*, [Chief Election Official], [Title ___], [date]).

Remove or modify provisions as appropriate and align formatting with your state's drafting conventions.

WORK WITH LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OR SPONSORS

Coordinate with legislative counsel, or share draft language with a sponsoring legislator, to ensure proper

integration into existing statutes and compliance with state constitutional requirements.

START ANYWHERE

You do not need to use this guide in sequence. Begin with the issue most relevant to your state.

Appendix B: Supporting Reference Materials for Model Laws

Appendix B.1 – Only Citizens Participate in U.S. Elections, in Any Manner

KEY FEDERAL STATUTES AND AUTHORITIES

- **National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA)**, 52 U.S.C. § 20501 et seq. https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title52/subtitle2/chapter205&edition=prelim
- **Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)**, 52 U.S.C. § 20901 et seq. https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title52/subtitle2/chapter209&edition=prelim
- **Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996** – § 656. https://www.congress.gov/104/crpt/hrpt828/CRPT-104hrpt828.pdf
- **REAL ID Act of 2005;** Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regulations (6 C.F.R. Part 37). https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-16376/pdf/COMPS-16376.pdf
- **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) SAVE Program.** https://www.uscis.gov/save
- Social Security Act § 205(r) – Death Master File. https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title02/0205.htm
- **18 U.S.C. § 611** – Voting by aliens. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/611
- **52 U.S.C. § 10307** – Voting fraud and related offenses. https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/52/10307

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act*** (H.R. 22, 119th Congress) – requires documentary proof of U.S. citizenship for federal voter registration (passed House April 10, 2025). https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/22/text

SELECTED STATE STATUTES AND MODELS

- **Kansas SAFE Act** – proof-of-citizenship and ID. https://ksrevisor.gov/statutes/ksa_ch25.html
- **Alabama photo ID and citizenship provisions.** https://law.justia.com/codes/alabama/title-17/chapter-9/article-2/section-17-9-30/
- **Arizona Prop 200, H.B. 2243** – citizenship verification. https://www.recorder.pima.gov/images/prop200_text.pdf
- **Georgia S.B. 202** – ID and registration changes. https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/201121
- **Georgia S.B. 202** (2021 Election Integrity Act) – restricts ballot drop boxes to one per 100,000 registered voters, requires indoor placement at early-voting sites only (available only during early-voting hours), and imposes photo ID for absentee ballots. Key provisions upheld in federal court in 2025. Enrolled bill text: https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20212022/201498
- **Mississippi:** New registrants must be checked through S.A.V.E. database and additional sources for citizenship prior to placing on the voter rolls. https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2026/html/SB/2500-2599/SB2588PS.htm

- **Missouri Const. Amendment 6.** https://www.sos.mo.gov/CMSImages/Elections/2024GeneralElectionBallotMeasures.pdf
- **North Dakota election rules** (no registration; strict residency/ID). https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t16-1c01.pdf
- **Texas Election Code, tit. 2** (citizenship affirmation & ID). https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/EL/htm/EL.13.htm
- **Wyoming House Bill 156 (2025) / House Enrolled Act 57** – requires documentary proof of U.S. citizenship and 30-day Wyoming residency for voter registration (effective July 1, 2025; one of the strictest statewide requirements). Official summary and text: https://sos.wyo.gov/Elections/Legislation/2025.aspx Bill text: https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2025/HB0156
- **South Dakota Senate Bill 175 (2026)** – Proof of citizenship to register (South Dakota SAVE Act) https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Subject/7416
- **State laws on foreign spending in ballot-measure campaigns.** https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_governing_foreign_spending_in_ballot_measure_campaigns

KEY COURT DECISIONS

- **Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd., 553 U.S. 181 (2008).** https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/553/181/
- **Arizona v. Inter Tribal Council (ITCA), 570 U.S. 1 (2013).** https://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/12-71
- **Fish v. Kobach, 840 F.3d 710 (10th Cir. 2016).** https://law.justia.com/cases/federal/appellate-courts/ca10/16-3147/16-3147-2016-10-19.html
- **League of Women Voters v. Newby (D.C. Cir. 2016).** https://caselaw.findlaw.com/us-dc-circuit/1748970.html
- **Brnovich v. DNC, 594 U.S. ___ (2021).** https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/20pdf/19-1257_g204.pdf

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Heritage Foundation** – citizenship and proof-of-citizenship analyses. https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity
- **Public Interest Legal Foundation** – "Alien Invasion" series. https://publicinterestlegal.org/research/
- **Honest Elections Project** – 2024 reform report (citizenship section). https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/HEP_2024-Election-Reform-Report_v4.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - Statement of Principles on Legislative Oversight. https://alec.org/model-policy/statement-of-principles-on-legislative-oversight/
  - Resolution to Restore Citizenship on United States Census. https://alec.org/model-policy/resolution-to-include-citizenship-on-united-states-census/
  - Only Citizens Vote Model Policy https://alec.org/model-policy/only-citizens-vote-model-policy/
  - Citizen Only Voting Amendment https://alec.org/model-policy/citizen-only-voting-amendment/
- **U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC)** – HAVA resources. https://www.eac.gov/about/help_america_vote_act.aspx
- **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)** – voter ID & proof-of-citizenship database. https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Election Data & Science Lab** – research library. https://electionlab.mit.edu/research

Appendix B.2 – Voter ID for All Votes/Voters: Acceptable ID Confirms Citizenship

Use Policy B.1's authorities plus:

KEY RESOURCES

- **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) voter ID overview** (photo/non-photo, in-person and mail). https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id
- **Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd.** (photo ID). https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/553/181/
- **MIT Election Data & Science Lab** – turnout and ID research. https://electionlab.mit.edu/research
- **State examples applying ID to mail ballots** (Georgia, Texas, Arizona) summarized via NCSL. https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-id

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Securing our Elections Act of 2025*** **(H.R. 156)** – establishes consistent photo ID requirements for federal elections. https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/156/text

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Interstate Voter Assistance Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-Interstate-Voter-Assistance-Act_v5.pdf
  - The Documentary Proof of Citizenship Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-The-Proof-of-Citizenship-Act_v5.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - Interstate Voter Assistance Act https://alec.org/model-policy/interstate-voter-assistance-act/
  - Valid Voter Identification Act https://alec.org/model-policy/voter-id-citizenship-on-id-act/
  - Resolution to Restore Citizenship on United States Census. https://alec.org/model-policy/resolution-to-include-citizenship-on-united-states-census/

Appendix B.3 – Restore Election Day, Qualify Absentee Voters, Results on Election Night

SHORT, FOCUSED EARLY-VOTING MODELS

- **Kentucky in-person absentee (3 days).** https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=51074
- **Oklahoma in-person absentee (3–5 days).** https://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=435047
- **Louisiana early voting (7 days).** https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=81354
- **Missouri – RSMo § 115.279(2) (effective 2022):** "Notwithstanding section 115.284, no individual, group, or party shall solicit a voter into obtaining an absentee ballot application.

Absentee ballot applications shall not have the information prefilled prior to it being provided to a voter. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit a state or local election authority from assisting an individual voter."

- **Alabama – Code of Alabama § 17-11-4(b)(2):** "It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly distribute an absentee ballot application to a voter which is prefilled with the voter's name or any other information required on the application form." Violations involving payment or third-party prefilling can rise to a Class C felony.
- **South Dakota – SDCL § 12-19-1.3:** "No person may distribute an absentee ballot application to a voter that is prefilled with the voter's name and registration address." (With limited exceptions for authorized assistance and election officials assisting upon voter request.)
- **Georgia – O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381(a)(1)(C)(ii) (as amended by SB 202, 2021; upheld by federal court in 2025):** Prohibits any person or entity (other than certain authorized relatives or assistants) from sending an elector an absentee ballot application that is prefilled with the elector's required information. The court recognized that prefilled applications "sparked confusion and concern about voter fraud, especially when the prefilled information was incorrect."

RESEARCH AND COMMENTARY

- **White House Executive Order 14248** – "Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections." https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/preserving-and-protecting-the-integrity-of-american-elections/
- **Heritage** – "The Costs of Early Voting." https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity/report/the-costs-early-voting#_ftnref1
- **Burden et al., "Election Laws, Mobilization, and Turnout"** (AJPS, 2014). http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ajps.12063/full
- **U.S. Election Project** – turnout data. http://www.electproject.org/home/voter-turnout/voter-turnout-data
- **Kontorovich & McGinnis** – "The Case Against Early Voting." http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2014/01/early-voting-the-case-against-102748
- **Honest Elections Project** – 2024 reform report (early/mail sections). https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/HEP_2024-Election-Reform-Report_v4.pdf
- **Voting Integrity Institute** – early voting issue brief. https://votingintegrityinstitute.org/issues/early-voting/
- **Ballotpedia** – arguments on no-excuse absentee/mail-in voting. https://ballotpedia.org/Arguments_for_and_against_no-excuse_absentee/mail-in_voting
- **Empire Center** – no-excuse mail-in voting in New York. https://www.empirecenter.org/publications/history-and-tradition-weigh-against-no-excuse-mail-in-voting-in-new-york/

GEORGIA-SPECIFIC MODEL ON DROP BOXES AND ABSENTEE SECURITY

- **Georgia S.B. 202 (2021)** – restricts no-excuse absentee voting expansions and ballot drop boxes (limited to one per 100,000 registered voters, indoors at early-voting sites only).

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - The Uniform Election Dates Act https://alec.org/model-policy/the-homeowners-right-to-choose-inspection-and-review-services-act-2/
  - Mail Voting Deadlines Act

https://alec.org/model-policy/deadlines-for-mail-voting-act/
- Deadline for Return and Receipt of all Ballots Act
https://alec.org/model-policy/deadline-for-return-and-receipt-of-all-ballots-act/

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Uniform Election Dates Act
https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Uniform-Election-Dates-Act_v2.pdf

Appendix B.4 – Confirm Citizenship, Identity, and Residency of All Voters; Rigorous Voter Roll Maintenance

Re-use **NVRA, HAVA, REAL ID, USCIS SAVE, SSA** Death Master File, and key cases from **Policy I**, plus:

KEY RESOURCES

- **EAC** – list-maintenance and voter-registration resources. https://www.eac.gov
- **NCSL** – voter-list accuracy and list-maintenance page. https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/voter-list-accuracy
- Sample state list-maintenance statutes (Kansas, Georgia, Texas, Wyoming, South Dakota) drawn from state codes cited in Policy I.

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Make Elections Great Again Act*** (H.R. 7300, introduced January 30, 2026) – strengthens voter-roll maintenance and citizenship verification. https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7300/text

STATE STATUES AND MODELS

- **Wyoming SF 30** – Qualified elector status tied to date of next election. https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2026/SF0030
- **South Dakota**
  - SB 30 – Adds citizenship to challenge grounds. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26606
  - SB 31 – Confirmation letter as registration verification. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26608
  - SB 214 – Weekly publication of statewide voter file. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/27258

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Never Resided Act
https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-The-Never-Resided-Act_v4.pdf

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - The Never Resided Act
https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-initiatives-act-2-2-2/
  - Interstate Voter Assistance Act
https://alec.org/model-policy/interstate-voter-assistance-act/

Appendix B.5 – Replace All Vulnerable/Insecure Voting Technology: Use Only Pre-Printed Paper Ballots, Hand Marked

CORE TECHNICAL STANDARDS

- **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) SP 800-53 Rev. 5** – Security and Privacy Controls. https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-53/rev-5/final
- **Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 200** – Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems. https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/fips/200/final
- **NIST Election Security Project** – overview. https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/research-and-projects/election-security
- **NIST Election Security Guides** (infographics and fact sheets). https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/election-security-guides
- **NIST Voting Systems Program / Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG)** technical work. https://www.nist.gov/voting-systems
- **VVSG 2.0** – Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (EAC). https://www.eac.gov/voting-equipment/voluntary-voting-system-guidelines
- **NIST Cybersecurity Framework Election Infrastructure Profile.** https://csrc.nist.gov/pubs/vts/200/1/final

GEORGIA-SPECIFIC MODEL/PROPOSAL

- **Senate Bill 214 (2026)** – would require transition to hand-marked paper ballots; passed Georgia House 132–39 on April 2, 2026. Full bill text: https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/70548

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- ***Make Elections Great Again Act*** **(H.R. 7300)** – requires voter-verifiable paper ballots.

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - ✔ One Citizen, One Vote Act https://alec.org/model-policy/safeguard-american-votes-and-elections-act-save-act/

Appendix B.6 – Confirm Accuracy of Election Results Pre-Certification; Require Post-Election Independent Audits

KEY RESOURCES

- **EAC** – election security preparedness and audit resources. https://www.eac.gov/election-officials/election-security-preparedness
- **EAC** – fact sheet "Serving Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) Voters" (for military/overseas timing interactions). https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/UOCAVA_Fact_Sheet_V2.1_Final_508.pdf
- **NIST** – Election Security Project (includes audit-related guidance). https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/research-and-projects/election-security
- **Applying the NIST Cybersecurity Framework to Elections** (EAC/NIST slide deck). https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/event_document/files/day2-2017-02-14-12_00-01-franklin-cybersecurity-framework1.pdf

- **NIST** – security recommendations for election systems. https://www.nist.gov/itl/voting/security-recommendations
- State risk-limiting audit statutes (*e.g.*, Colorado) to be added by counsel as state-specific examples.

2025–2026 FEDERAL LEGISLATION SUPPORT

- **Make Elections Great Again Act (H.R. 7300)** – authorizes HAVA funds for post-election audits.

STATE STATUTES AND MODELS

- **Wyoming:**
  - SF 28 – Individual testing of voting machines and systems. https://www.wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2026/SF0028
  - SF 113 – 5% hand-count audit (2026 primary and general)
- **South Dakota:** SB 101 – Presidential elector duties

Appendix B.7 – Ensure Transparency of Election Records lection Records and Public Access

KEY RESOURCES

- **NVRA and HAVA public-records concepts** (see Policy I U.S. Code citations). https://uscode.house.gov
- **EAC** – general guidance and resources on election administration and records. https://www.eac.gov
- Examples of proactive transparency portals or statewide election-results sites from peer states, to be added as your team selects preferred models.

COURT DECISIONS

- **Cast Vote Records:** [J-45-2025] [MO: McCaffery, J.] IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA MIDDLE DISTRICT HEATHER HONEY v. LYCOMING COUNTY OFFICES OF

STATE STATUTES AND MODELS

- **South Dakota SB 114** – Publication of ballot images and CVR. https://sdlegislature.gov/Session/Bill/26563

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - Audit Election Irregularities Act: https://alec.org/model-policy/audit-election-irregularities-act/
  - Procedural Election Audits Act: https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-initiatives-act-2/
- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - Procedural Election Audits Act: https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Election-Audits_v3.pdf

Appendix B.8 – Protect Deployed Military Voters, Separate from Overseas Civilians

CORE FEDERAL LAW AND GUIDANCE

- **Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)** – UOCAVA overview. https://www.fvap.gov/info/laws/uocava
- **Department of Justice (DOJ)** – UOCAVA enforcement page. https://www.justice.gov/crt/uniformed-and-overseas-citizens-absentee-voting-act
- **FVAP** – About page (administration of UOCAVA). https://www.fvap.gov/info/about
- **FVAP** – "How Election Officials Serve UOCAVA Voters." https://www.fvap.gov/eo/overview
- **EAC** – fact sheet "Serving UOCAVA Voters."
- https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/UOCAVA_Fact_Sheet_V2.1_Final_508.pdf

COURT DECISIONS

- **North Carolina:** Never resided. https://www.democracydocket.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/2026-06-09-Order.pdf
- **Virginia:** Pending, never resided. https://www.democracydocket.com/cases/virginia-overseas-voters-challenge/
- **Nebraska:** Pending, never resided.
- ***RNC, Riggins, Dingman v. Evnen*** (new federal filing)

STATE MODELS

- **Pennsylvania Uniformed and Overseas Military Overseas Voting Act (UMOVA)** (Title 25). https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/LI/CT/HTM/25/25.HTM
- **Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3511** (including § 3511.021). https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/chapter-3511
- **Arizona military/overseas absentee** (*e.g.*, A.R.S. § 16-547). https://www.azleg.gov/ars/16/00547.htm
- **Alabama military absentee** (*e.g.*, § 17-11-49). https://dev.alison.legislature.state.al.us/code-of-alabama?section=17-11-49
- **Local practice example –** Okaloosa County, FL, military/overseas voter guidance. https://www.voteokaloosa.gov/voters/military-overseas-voters/

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Never Resided Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/NEW-HEP_Model-Bill-The-Never-Resided-Act_v4.pdf
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - The Never Resided Act https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-initiatives-act-2-2-2/

Appendix B.9 – Stop Billionaire-Concocted Election Schemes

PRIVATE FUNDING BANS

- **NCSL** – "Prohibiting Private Funding of Elections." https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/prohibiting-private-funding-of-elections

- **Election Innovation Lab** – overview of private-funding bans. https://electioninnovation.org/research/overview-of-private-funding-bans/
- **Ballotpedia** – laws governing private funding of elections. https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_governing_the_private_funding_of_elections
- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)** – "Banning Private Funding and Influence in Election Administration Act." https://alec.org/model-policy/banning-private-funding-and-influence-in-election-administration-act/

FOREIGN FUNDING IN BALLOT MEASURES

- **Ballotpedia** – foreign spending in ballot-measure campaigns. https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_governing_foreign_spending_in_ballot_measure_campaigns

RANKED-CHOICE VOTING BANS

- **Ballotpedia news** – state ranked-choice voting (RCV) bans (example: Indiana becomes 19th state to ban RCV). https://news.ballotpedia.org/2026/03/03/the-ballot-bulletin-indiana-becomes-the-19th-state-to-ban-ranked-choice-voting/
- NCSL / Ballotpedia overview pages on RCV adoption and repeal (to be added as your team selects citations).

STATE STATUTES AND RULES

- **Iowa:** https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGI/91/attachments/HF2601.html

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - No Taxpayer Money for Lobbying by Political Subdivisions Act https://alec.org/model-policy/no-taxpayer-money-for-lobbying-by-political-subdivisions-act/
  - Prohibiting Foreign Funding from Ballot Measures Act https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-measures-act/
  - Protecting Election Administration from Private Funding and Influence Act https://alec.org/model-policy/banning-private-funding-and-influence-in-election-administration-act/
  - One Citizen, One Vote Act https://alec.org/model-policy/safeguard-american-votes-and-elections-act-save-act/
  - Statement of Principles for Presidential Elections https://alec.org/model-policy/draft-statement-of-principles-for-presidential-elections/
- **Honest Elections Project (HEP)**
  - The Zuck Bucks 2.0 Certification and Disclosures Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Zuck-Bucks_v2.pdf
  - The Stop Zuck Bucks 2.0 Act https://honestelections.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/OLD-HEP_Model-Bill-Stop-Zuck-Bucks-2.0_v3.pdf

Appendix B.10 – Citizen Standing to Enforce Election Laws; Protect Laws from Left-Wing Legal Apparatus; Accountability and Penalties for Violations

PRIVATE ENFORCEMENT AND CITIZEN-SUIT MODELS

- **Congressional Research Service (CRS)** and legal scholarship on private rights of action and citizen-suit provisions (environmental, civil-rights, open-records analogues).
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Recent Developments in the Rights of Private Individuals to Enforce Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act* (Legal Sidebar LSB10954, updated February 20, 2024). https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/LSB/PDF/LSB10954/LSB10954.2.pdf
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *A Circuit Court Split Over Whether the Voting Rights Act Permits Minority Coalition Claims* (Legal Sidebar LSB11297, April 30, 2025) — analyzes private rights of action under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, including circuit court splits on standing and enforcement implications. https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/LSB11297
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Voter Registration: Recent Developments and Issues for Congress* (Report R46406, updated February 7, 2025) — covers NVRA implementation, voter registration enforcement challenges, and related federal-state issues. https://www.everycrsreport.com/files/2025-02-07_R46406_9ccdf79e5f3ebf7e2a8c849a0c1b7bc400d03ff1.html
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Election Law and the Supreme Court in 2026: Pending Cases on Redistricting, Campaign Finance, and Mail-In Ballots* (Legal Sidebar LSB11419, April 15, 2026) — provides an overview of pending Supreme Court cases with implications for election enforcement and private actions. https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/LSB11419
- (Example placeholder citation: **CRS** "Recent Developments in the Rights of Private Individuals to Enforce Federal Law.")
- State-level citizen-suit provisions in non-election contexts (ethics, open meetings, public-records, environmental enforcement), to be filled in with your chosen state examples.

QUI TAM AND WHISTLEBLOWER-STYLE ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Qui Tam: The False Claims Act and Related Federal Statutes* (Report R40785, April 26, 2021) — explains qui tam actions (private citizens, known as relators, suing on behalf of the government to recover fraudulently obtained funds and sharing in the recovery), the structure of the False Claims Act, government intervention rights, relator incentives (15–30% of proceeds), dismissal standards, and related federal statutes. This is especially useful for readers unfamiliar with the term **qui tam.**
- https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R40785
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** *Qui Tam: An Abridged Look at the False Claims Act and Related Federal Statutes* (Report R40786, April 26, 2021) — a shorter version of the above for quick reference. https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R40786
- **Congressional Research Service (CRS):** Legal Standards for Government Dismissal of Qui Tam Cases Under the False Claims Act (Legal Sidebar LSB11047, September 27, 2023) — discusses standards for government dismissal of qui tam actions, including the Supreme Court's *Polansky* decision and implications for relator rights. https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/LSB11047.html
- Scholarship on qui tam litigation against government officials under the False Claims Act, including separation-of-powers analysis. https://ndlawreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Beck-07.pdf
- Additional commentary on government control over qui tam suits and relator-based enforcement. https://www.yalejreg.com/wp-content/uploads/07.-Li-Note.-Print.pdf
- Practice-oriented summaries of qui tam and whistleblower incentives. https://natlawreview.

com/article/qui-tam-litigation-answers-frequent-whistleblower-questions

COURT DECISIONS

- **Bost vs IL Decision:** https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/25pdf/24-568_gfbh.pdf

RECENT ELECTION-LAW ENFORCEMENT DEBATES

- Texas S.B. 1 bill text (2021) – enforcement and penalty structure for election offenses. https://legiscan.com/TX/text/SB1/id/2424492
- Litigation and advocacy materials critiquing S.B. 1's enforcement mechanisms, to anticipate arguments about private enforcement and penalties. https://www.aclu.org/press-releases/major-victory-in-lawsuit-against-texas-anti-voter-law-s-b-1

REPORTS AND MODEL RESOURCES

- **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**
  - No Taxpayer Money for Lobbying by Political Subdivisions Act https://alec.org/model-policy/no-taxpayer-money-for-lobbying-by-political-subdivisions-act/
  - Prohibiting Foreign Funding from Ballot Measures Act https://alec.org/model-policy/prohibiting-foreign-funding-from-ballot-measures-act/
  - Protecting Election Administration from Private Funding and Influence Act https://alec.org/model-policy/banning-private-funding-and-influence-in-election-administration-act/
  - One Citizen, One Vote Act https://alec.org/model-policy/safeguard-american-votes-and-elections-act-save-act/
  - Election Crime Prosecution Act https://alec.org/model-policy/election-crime-prosecution-act/
  - Statement of Principles for Presidential Elections https://alec.org/model-policy/draft-statement-of-principles-for-presidential-elections/

Copyright © 2026 Election Integrity Network

Permission is granted to reproduce, distribute, quote, and adapt portions of this publication for educational, legislative, policy, and non-commercial purposes, provided appropriate attribution is given to Election Integrity Network.

No person or entity may reproduce, republish, distribute, or sell this publication in its entirety, or any substantial portion thereof, for commercial purposes without prior written permission from Election Integrity Network.

All rights reserved.

October 2026 Edition

Election Integrity Network
www.electionintegritynetwork.org

Election
INTEGRITY NETWORK

www.electionintegritynetwork.org

