Iowa has new voting laws.

The changes to voting laws make voting harder for Iowans with Disabilities.

These changes include:

- Fewer days to vote.
- Different voting places.
- Fewer days to get and return an absentee ballot.
- Fewer dropbox options.
- Limits to who can help deliver an absentee ballot.
- Voters must register to vote if they did not vote last time.

Voting can be hard for people with disabilities. Voting challenges include writing, reading, and understanding the voting material, getting to the voting place, or a voting place that is not accessible. Voting places may not be friendly to all. Poll workers may not know how to support everyone’s needs. The new changes in the law make voting harder. These challenges can be greater in rural Iowa.

Despite these challenges, more people with disabilities are voting each year. Six out of ten Americans with disabilities vote.

(Katz, 2020) The Iowa DD Council would like to see this number continue to increase.

Tell your lawmakers about the voting challenges for people with disabilities. Voting should be made easier for people with disabilities - not harder. Trained poll workers, accessible voting locations, and an easier voting system that works for all Iowans are necessary.

For Iowans with disabilities who wish to vote, the DD Council is here to help. We provide voter trainings, voting assistance, and voting resources to make it easier for everyone to vote.

All people have the right to have their voices heard at the polls!

Important things voters must know:

- Registration or re-registration to vote is required.
- Early voting at your county auditor’s office is available.
- Absentee ballot requests can be made up to 70 days before an election.
- Once an absentee ballot is received, it is best to fill it out and mail it right away to the county auditor’s office.
- Absentee ballots must arrive at the county auditor’s office by election day. REMINDER: mail may take longer in rural areas.
- Ballots can be hand-delivered to the voter’s county auditor’s office before election day.
- Each voting location must have curbside voting available to all voters.
- Help is available at the voting place. If you need it, ask for help.

_T Wright, 2021, Iowa’s Newest Elections Laws, Explained, POLITIFACT

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