

ISSUE STATEMENT

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

Forms of voter ID vary from requiring a voter signature to requiring only government-issued photo identification. In 2012, courts found that restrictive forms of voter ID passed by states such as Texas, South Carolina, and Wisconsin would prevent eligible voters from casting a ballot. Voter ID requirements impact all voters, but fall more significantly on traditionally disenfranchised groups like poor, minority and elderly voters. These three groups share a common trait – lower access to motor vehicles and thus a greatly reduced need for a driver's license or similar form of ID.

ID REQUIREMENTS ACROSS THE STATES:

Government issued photo ID:	Photo or non-photo forms of ID:	Request but do not require ID:
Georgia	Alabama	Florida
Indiana	Alaska	Idaho
Kansas	Arizona	Louisiana
Tennessee	Arkansas	New Hampshire
	Colorado	Oklahoma
	Connecticut	Pennsylvania
	Delaware	Rhode Island
	Hawaii	South Carolina
	Kentucky	South Dakota
	Michigan	
	Missouri	
	Montana	
	New Hampshire	
	North Dakota	
	Ohio	
	Texas	
	Utah	
	Virginia	
	Washington	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

States currently considering more restrictive voter ID laws in 2013 include Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota and West Virginia.

Wisconsin and Pennsylvania passed restrictive government-issued photo identification laws in 2012 which are currently blocked by litigation.

Arkansas and Virginia passed restrictive government-issued photo identification laws in 2013 which will not be implemented until 2014. Virginia's law is subject to pre-clearance from the United States Department of Justice due to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.