



Strengthening Democracy: Proposed Voting Rights Measures for Wisconsin

Voter turnout in Wisconsin for the 2024 elections was some of the highest ever in our state's history. According to the Associated Press, about 73% of Wisconsin's voting-age population cast a ballot. Such turnout is due to the incredible work of organizers, election workers, and everyday citizens determined to have their voices heard.

Despite this incredible turnout, there's still much to be done to further ensure that all Wisconsinites have unrestricted access to the polls.

As our lawmakers prepare for another legislative session, it is imperative that key voting rights proposals are prioritized and passed to continue improving the access our state provides for all voters.

This is why All Voting is Local Wisconsin is advocating for several distinct measures to be included in Governor Tony Evers' budget. These measures will provide increased protections for election officials, education funding for state clerks, and capacity-building resources for election workers among other necessary policies.

By implementing these actions, we will further improve our state's electoral integrity and strengthen our democracy for years to come.

An Overview of Proposed Voting Rights Measures

- **Monday Processing Bill:** This would enable clerks to begin processing absentee ballots on the day before the election. This reform would streamline election administration, reduce delays, and enhance public confidence in timely and accurate results.
- **Increased Protection for Election Workers and Municipal Workers:** Wisconsin must take action to safeguard election officials by enacting stronger protections and penalties for those who engage in harassment, intimidation, or physical assault.
- **Increased Funding and Support for Local Election Administration:** This policy prioritizes funding for personal and administrative cybersecurity, capacity building, and adequate compensation to attract and retain skilled election officials.
- **Increased Funding and Staffing for the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC):** This legislative priority advocates for increased funding and staff to ensure the Commission can fulfill its responsibilities while maintaining public confidence in Wisconsin's elections.
- **Badger Book Funding and Expansion of WEC Staff for E-Poll Book Program:** This policy aims to secure funding for the Badger Book program (electronic poll books) in Wisconsin and to expand the

staffing capacity of the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) to manage and support the implementation and operation of the program.

- **Professionalizing the Wisconsin Municipal Clerk Career and Funding Continuing Education:** The complexity of election laws, evolving technology, and growing public scrutiny require clerks to have access to ongoing professional development opportunities. This legislative policy aims to professionalize the municipal clerk career by establishing a funded framework for continuing education, helping to ensure clerks remain well-trained, resilient, and equipped to handle the responsibilities of their roles.
- **Prohibiting Fake Electors and Allies from Overseeing State Election Administration:** Individuals who have engaged in or facilitated fake elector schemes have demonstrated actions that undermine democratic principles and should be prohibited from participating in the oversight of elections. This policy ensures that Wisconsin's election administration remains impartial and trustworthy by disqualifying individuals with a history of such activity from holding positions that impact election outcomes.
- **Opposing Proof of Citizenship Requirements for Voter Registration and Voting in Wisconsin:** This policy advocates for preserving Wisconsin's accessible voter registration process and ensuring that all eligible voters can participate in elections without undue burden.
- **Have Wisconsin Be in Compliance with the Electoral Count Reform Act (ECRA):** This measure ensures that Wisconsin's laws align with ECRA, thereby protecting the integrity of federal elections and reinforcing public confidence in the democratic process.
- **Establishment of a Centralized Location/Website for County Canvass Notices:** A centralized, accessible online location for county canvass notices would streamline the process for election observers, media, and the public to monitor and verify the accuracy of election results. This would promote transparency, increase public trust in the election process, and reduce confusion by ensuring that all relevant information is housed in one place.
- **Opposition to Lawmakers Voting a Second Time to Approve State Constitution Voter ID Amendment:** This policy opposes the legislature's efforts to approve a second vote on the Voter ID constitutional amendment that would be on the ballot for the April 1, 2025 Spring General Election. The aim is to safeguard voting rights by ensuring that the amendment does not impose additional barriers to voting.
- **Make Curbside Voting Mandatory for In-Person Absentee Voting (IPAV):** This policy proposes the mandatory inclusion of curbside voting for In-Person Absentee Voting (IPAV) in Wisconsin to mirror the existing legal requirements for Election Day voting.

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