

Voter Bill of Rights – recommended language

You have a right to...

cast a ballot if you are a registered voter. You can register to vote if you are

- a U.S. citizen
- at least 18 years old
- have been living in the state for x days
- not in prison or on parole
- registered to vote where you currently live.

vote on a provisional ballot if your name is not on the list of registered voters.

vote if you are in line when the polls close.

cast a secret ballot without anyone bothering you or telling you how to vote.

get a new ballot if you have made a mistake as long as you still have your old ballot. If you are at a polling place, ask an election official for a new ballot. If you vote by mail, you must give your original ballot to an election official before the polls close on Election Day before you can ask for a new ballot.

get help voting and casting your ballot.

turn in your completed vote-by-mail ballot at any polling place in the county where you are registered to vote.

get election materials in a language other than English if enough people in your voting precinct need a ballot in that language.

ask questions about election procedures and watch the election process. You can ask questions of election officials about procedures. The person you ask must answer your questions or send you to the right person for an answer. Please don't ask questions while election officers are busy working.

report anything happening in the polling place that is a crime or if you believe someone is not who they say they are.

If you believe you have been denied any of these rights, or see something that might be a crime, call the Secretary of State's confidential toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-8683.

Voter Bill of Rights – current language

1. You have the right to cast a ballot if you are a valid registered voter. A valid registered voter means a United States citizen who is a resident in this state, who is at least 18 years of age and not in prison or on parole for conviction of a felony, and who is registered to vote at his or her current residence address.
2. You have the right to cast a provisional ballot if your name is not listed on the voting rolls.
3. You have the right to cast a ballot if you are present and in line at the polling place prior to the close of the polls.
4. You have the right to cast a secret ballot free from intimidation.
5. You have the right to receive a new ballot if, prior to casting your ballot, you believe you made a mistake. If at any time before you finally cast your ballot, you feel you have made a mistake, you have the right to exchange the spoiled ballot for a new ballot. Vote-by-mail voters may also request and receive a new ballot if they return their spoiled ballot to an elections official prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day.
6. You have the right to receive assistance in casting your ballot, if you are unable to vote without assistance.
7. You have the right to return a completed vote-by-mail ballot to any precinct in the county.
8. You have the right to election materials in another language, if there are sufficient residents in your precinct to warrant production.
9. You have the right to ask questions about election procedures and observe the election process. You have the right to ask questions of the precinct board and elections officials regarding election procedures and to receive an answer or be directed to the appropriate official for an answer. However, if persistent questioning disrupts the execution of their duties, the board or election officials may discontinue responding to questions.
10. You have the right to report any illegal or fraudulent activity to a local elections official or to the Secretary of State's office.

If you believe you have been denied any of these rights or you are aware of any election fraud or misconduct, please call the Secretary of State's confidential toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-8683