Absentee/Mail Ballot Verification

No updates required since December 21, 2023

Background

States use a variety of methods to verify that absentee and mail ballots were returned by the correct voter. Many states conduct rigorous signature verification processes or match identifying information such as driver’s license numbers, while some states only confirm the ballot is signed or the voter has affirmed their own identity.

Scoring

- State requires signature matching or uses other identifying information to verify absentee/mail ballots, 1 point
- State does not require signature matching or uses other identifying information to verify absentee/mail ballots, 0 points

Summary Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State requires signature matching or other verification methods</td>
<td>37 states &amp; D.C.</td>
<td>Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>State does not require signature verification or other methods</td>
<td>13 states</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alabama (1)</td>
<td>State requires voters to submit a copy of photo ID with absentee ballot (Alabama Code Title 17 § 17-9-30).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alaska (1)</td>
<td>State requires voters to provide identifying information with absentee ballot which is verified before counting (6 Alaska Admin. Code § 25.510).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arkansas (1)</td>
<td>State requires voters to submit a copy of photo ID with absentee ballot in addition to other identifying information (Ark. Code § 7-5-416).</td>
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<tr>
<td>California (1)</td>
<td>State requires signature matching for mail ballots (Cal. Election Code § 3019).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Colorado (1)
  • State requires signature matching for mail ballots (Colo. Rev. Stat. § 1-7.5-107.3).
Connecticut (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (CT Gen Stat § 9-150a).
Delaware (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (Del. Code tit. 15, § 5514).
D.C. (1)
  • Requires signature matching for absentee ballots (D.C. Mun. Regs. tit. 3 § 808).

Florida (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Fla. Stat. § 101.68).
Georgia (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Ga. Code § 21-2-386(a)(1)(B)).
Hawaii (1)
  • State requires signature matching for mail ballots (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 15-9(c)(2)).
Idaho (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Idaho Code § 34-1005).
Illinois (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (10 ILCS 5/19-8).
Indiana (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Ind. Code § 3-11.5-4).
Iowa (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (Iowa Code §53.18).
Kansas (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Kan. Stat. § 25-433(e)).
Kentucky (1)
  • State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Ky. Rev. Stat. § 117.087(3)(c)(5)).
Louisiana (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (La. Rev. Stat. §18:1313(F)).

Maine (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Me. Stat. tit. 21-A, § 756(2)).

Maryland (0)
- State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (MD Code, Election Law, § 9-310).

Massachusetts (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (MA ST 54 § 94).

Michigan (1)

Minnesota (1)
- State requires voters to provide identifying information with absentee ballot which is verified before counting (Minn. Stat. § 203B.121(2)(b)(3)).

Mississippi (1)

Missouri (0)
- State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (Mo. Rev. Stat. § 115.293).

Montana (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Mont. Code § 13-13-241(1)).

Nebraska (1)

Nevada (1)

New Hampshire (0)

New Jersey (1)
New Mexico (1)
- State requires voters to provide identifying information with absentee ballot which is verified before counting (N.M. Stat. Ann. § 1-6-4; § 1-6-8).

New York (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (N.Y. Elec. Code § 9-209(2)(a)(i)(C)).

North Carolina (0)
- State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-234(11)).

North Dakota (1)

Ohio (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Ohio Rev. Code § 3509.06(D)(1)).

Oklahoma (0)

Oregon (1)
- State requires signature matching for mail ballots (Or. Rev. Stat. § 254.470(9)).

Pennsylvania (1)
- State requires voters to provide identifying information with absentee ballot which is verified before counting (25 Pa. Stat. § 3146.8).

Rhode Island (1)

South Carolina (0)

South Dakota (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (S.D. Codified Laws § 12-19-10).

Tennessee (1)
- State requires signature matching for absentee ballots (Tenn. Code § 2-6-202(g)).

Texas (1)
Utah (1)
  • State requires signature matching for mail ballots (Utah Code § 20A-3a-401).

Vermont (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (Vt. Stat. tit. 17, § 2547(a)).

Virginia (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (Va. Code § 24.2-706).

Washington (1)
  • State requires signature matching for mail ballots (Wash. Rev. Code §29A.40.091; §29A.40.110).

West Virginia (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (W. Va. Code § 3-3-8).

Wisconsin (1)
  • State requires voters to submit a copy of photo ID with absentee ballot (Wis. Stat. Ann. §6.87; §6.88).

Wyoming (0)
  • State does not require signature matching for absentee ballots (Wyo. Stat. § 22-9-121(a)).