

Native American Voting Protections

No updates required since June 16, 2025

Background

Native Americans often face additional obstacles to voting, due to geographic challenges, lack of access to mail and government services, and a history of voter suppression, among other factors. A small number of states have implemented laws specifically designed to address and mitigate these obstacles.

Scoring

- State has enacted Native American voting protections, 1 point
- State has no applicable law, 0 points

Summary Table

| Category | Number | List |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| State has no | 45 states & D.C. | Alabama |
| | | Alaska |
| | | Arizona |
| | | Arkansas |
| | | Connecticut |
| | | Delaware |
| | | D.C. |
| | | Florida |
| | | Georgia |
| | | Hawaii |
| | | Idaho |
| | | Illinois |
| | | Indiana |
| | | lowa |
| | | Kansas |
| | | Kentucky |
| applicable law | | Louisiana |
| | | Maine |
| | | Maryland |
| | | Massachusetts |
| | | Michigan |
| | | Minnesota |
| | | Mississippi |
| | | Missouri |
| | | Montana |
| | | Nebraska |
| | | New Hampshire |
| | | New Jersey |
| | | New York |
| | | North Carolina |
| | | North Dakota |



| | | Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming |
|--|----------|--|
| State has enacted protections for Native American voters | 5 states | California Colorado Nevada New Mexico Washington |

State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)

State has no applicable law.

Alaska (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Arizona (0)

State has no applicable law.

Arkansas (0)

• State has no applicable law.

California (1)

California enacted <u>AB 2314</u> in 2020, requiring the establishment of a Native American Voting
Accessibility Advisory Committee to advise the Secretary of State. The Committee is required to
recommend policies to make election materials more accessible, improve voter services for
Native Americans, and train poll workers to better assist Native American voters, among other
issues.



Colorado (1)

- Colorado enacted <u>HB 1278</u> in 2019, which allows voters living on Indian reservations to register
 to vote using residences not recognized by the postal service, including the address of a tribal
 council headquarters.
- Colorado also enacted <u>SB 276</u> in 2023, which established new provisions facilitating voter registration through Tribe authorities and allows more in-person voting on Tribe lands.

Connecticut (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Delaware (0)

State has no applicable law.

D.C. (0)

State has no applicable law.

Florida (0)

State has no applicable law.

Georgia (0)

State has no applicable law.

Hawaii (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Idaho (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Illinois (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Indiana (0)

State has no applicable law.

Iowa (0)

State has no applicable law.

Kansas (0)

State has no applicable law.



Kentucky (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Louisiana (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Maine (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Maryland (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Massachusetts (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Michigan (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Minnesota (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Mississippi (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Missouri (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Montana (0)

State has no applicable law.

Nebraska (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Nevada (1)

Nevada has enacted multiple laws to protect Native American voting rights, including <u>SB 492</u> (2017), <u>AB 432</u> (2021), <u>AB 321</u> (2021), <u>SB 216</u> (2023), <u>SB 327</u> (2023), and <u>SB 421</u> (2025). These laws address voting access, polling places, automatic voter registration, and drop boxes, respectively.



New Hampshire (0)

• State has no applicable law.

New Jersey (0)

• State has no applicable law.

New Mexico (1)

 New Mexico enacted <u>HB 231</u> in 2021, which implements protections for polling places on tribal lands.

New York (0)

• State has no applicable law.

North Carolina (0)

• State has no applicable law.

North Dakota (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Ohio (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Oklahoma (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Oregon (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Pennsylvania (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Rhode Island (0)

• State has no applicable law.

South Carolina (0)

• State has no applicable law.

South Dakota (0)

State has no applicable law.



Tennessee (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Texas (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Utah (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Vermont (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Virginia (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Washington (1)

Washington enacted <u>SB 5079</u> in 2019, the "Native American Voting Rights Act of Washington."
 The law addresses voter registration, drop boxes, and tribal IDs, among other topics.

West Virginia (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Wisconsin (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Wyoming (0)

• State has no applicable law.

Democracy Map & Additional Resources

• See our Democracy Map, Native American Voting Protections, which is updated in real time.