Native American Voting Protections

No updates required since July 18, 2023

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State has no applicable law</td>
<td>45 states &amp; D.C.</td>
<td>Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>State conducts all-mail elections</td>
<td>5 states</td>
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<td>California</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
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### 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 AB 2314 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 HB 1278 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 SB 276 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 SB 492 (2017), AB 432 (2021), AB 321 (2021), SB 216 (2023), and SB 327 (2023). 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 HB 231 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 SB 5079 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](http://www.mapresearch.org), which is updated in real time.