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Voting
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January 09, 2017

ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin

U. S. Designates Election Infrastructure as 'Critical'

Citing increasingly sophisticated cyber bad actors and an election infrastructure that's "vital to our national interests," Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson announced Friday that he's designating U.S. election systems as critical infrastructure, a move that provides more federal help for state and local governments to keep their election systems safe from tampering.

The determination came after months of review and despite opposition from many states worried that the designation would lead to increased federal regulation or oversight on the many decentralized and locally run voting systems across the country.
<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/us-designate-election-infrastructure-critical-44609959>

Response of Commissioner Christy McCormick, Election Assistance Commission

"Elections officials asked for more time, conversation, and discussion and a thorough understanding of the scope and benefits of the critical infrastructure designation. That request was flat out denied by the unilateral action of Secretary Johnson. I ask that President-elect Trump and his designated DHS Secretary General Kelly immediately reverse this unjustified and unsupported critical infrastructure designation, as well as Executive Order 13694, review the actions of DHS, provide a non-intrusive way for our

intelligence community to provide information and resources to our election administrators, and leave the conduct of elections to the States as mandated in our Constitution." See her full statement at:
<https://www.eac.gov/assets/1/Documents/Statement%20from%20Commissioner%20Christy%20McCormick.pdf>

NAACP to Host Statewide Demonstrations against Sessions' AG Nomination

http://www.waaytv.com/appnews/naACP-to-host-statewide-demonstrations-against-sessions-nomination-for-ag/article_b4426864-d16e-11e6-8c6e-574147eae110.html

Victoria Toensing: Trump's Pick for Attorney General Is "Good and Decent Man"

"Democrats and the Left, just as they did 30 years ago when Sessions was nominated for a federal judgeship, are trying to derail his nomination — with false accusations."
<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2017/01/03/victoria-toensing-jeff-sessions-trumps-pick-for-attorney-general-is-good-and-decent-man.html>

Ad Blitz Favoring Sessions Targets Vulnerable Democrats

The Judicial Crisis Network is launching a "mid-six figure" ad blitz on Friday boosting Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions' bid for U.S. attorney general in three states featuring key election battles in the 2018 mid-terms. The 30-second ad supporting Sessions will air on TV in Washington, D.C., and Indiana, Missouri, and North Dakota.

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/ad-blitz-favoring-sessions-for-attorney-general-targets-vulnerable-democrats/article/2611057>

J. Christian Adams: Pray for Jeff Sessions

“Everyone who believes in prayer should say some for attorney general nominee Jeff Sessions. Senator Sessions is experiencing the full wrath of the worst hateful lies that the modern Left and Democrat Party can conjure. Lies, half-truths, and smears have become the strategy to attack his nomination. The age of Obama has seen the rise of bricks-and-mortar operations with deep cash reserves designed to permanently transform the nation, and the Justice Department has been ground zero. That's why Jeff Sessions is the perfect pick for attorney general, and that's why the liars on the Left are willing to smear this good man. They've served up all their familiar charges against him from their phobia smorgasbord: homo-, xeno-, Islamo- or trans-. That's why the NAACP decided to trespass and occupy his Senate office – an action far worse than the one that landed James O'Keefe in jail. Don't expect Loretta Lynch to do anything.”

<https://pjmedia.com/jchristianadams/2017/01/05/pray-for-jeff-sessions/>

Proposal Would Require ID for Iowa Voters

Iowa voters would have to present identification in order to vote under a plan unveiled Thursday by Secretary of State Paul Pate. The proposal will be considered in the 2017 Iowa Legislature's session. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2017/01/05/proposal-would-require-id-iowa-voters/96195110/>

Missouri: Dem SOS Kander, House Republicans Clash over Photo ID

Outgoing Missouri Secretary of State Jason Kander (D) used an opening day address Wednesday at the Statehouse in Jefferson City to criticize House Republicans over photo ID.

<http://www.ozarksfirst.com/news/ozarks-politics/kander-house-republicans-clash-over-photo-id/636303797>

Missouri: Incoming Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft Working on Photo ID

Although he has not formally taken office, Missouri's next secretary of state is working to implement a new state law requiring voters to show photo identification at the polls. Republican Jay Ashcroft told the Post-Dispatch on Friday that he was in talks with the Legislature to ensure there is enough funding for the voter photo ID law and is crafting guidelines for what to do when someone shows up at the polls without an ID card.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/incoming-secretary-of-state-jay-ashcroft-working-on-voter-photo/article_98e64312-06d0-5875-bda0-3315b8d5bd58.html

Nebraska Senator Proposes Constitutional Amendment for Photo Voter ID

Several bills have been proposed to require photo voter IDs, but none made it through Nebraska's unicameral Legislature. This year, Sen. John Murante is proposing a state constitutional amendment that could be approved by a vote of the people and doesn't need legislative passage. "A constitutional amendment places before the voters of Nebraska a simple question: Should voters be required to show photo identification before voting? And if so, then the Legislature would be authorized and required to pass legislation in the years to come to make that happen and I believe the voters of Nebraska have a right to vote on this," Murante said.

<http://netnebraska.org/article/news/1057625/voter-id-partisanship-divide-nebraska-lawmakers>