



The American  
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Voting  
Integrity  
Institute

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# ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin

## LEAD STORY

### DOJ Demands North Carolina Voting Records be Given to Immigration Authorities

The Department of Justice is demanding that millions of voter records in North Carolina be turned over to immigration authorities this month. The subpoena requests that the state turn over “any and all voter registration applications and/or other documents... that were submitted to, filed by, received by, or maintained by the North Carolina State Board of Elections” between Jan. 1, 2010, and Aug. 30 of this year.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/405311-doj-demands-north-carolina-voting-records-be-given-to>

### Rep. Bob Gibbs (R-OH 7) Introduces Bill to Require Citizenship Proof for Voter Registration

Holmes County GOP Rep. Bob Gibbs introduced legislation that would require people across the nation to provide proof of citizenship when they register to vote. “This is a matter of protecting the integrity of our elections,” said a statement from Gibbs. “We have made substantial investments in protecting our voting systems from foreign influence or corruption. It is time to take steps to stop illegal voting before it happens, rather than dealing with the consequences after the fact.”

[https://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2018/09/rep\\_bob\\_gibbs\\_introduces\\_bill.html](https://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2018/09/rep_bob_gibbs_introduces_bill.html)

## FEDERAL

### PJ Media: Lying About Brett Kavanaugh’s Civil Rights Record on Voting Issues

Kavanaugh critics never tell the full story about his South Carolina voter ID decision. They omit an important part—the part where Kavanaugh refused to do what some were urging. South Carolina asked the court to trim the scope of the federal Voting Rights Act that required federal approval.

<https://pjmedia.com/jchristianadams/lying-about-brett-kavanaughs-civil-rights-record/>

### The Daily Signal: An Obama Judge Said Michigan’s Voting Law Was Racially Motivated. A Higher Court Disagrees.

Sanity has prevailed in the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. A three-judge panel of that court, in very strong language, has stayed the absurd decision of an Obama-appointed judge, Gershwin A. Drain, who threw out the Michigan Legislature’s decision to eliminate straight-ticket voting for supposedly violating the Constitution and the Voting Rights Act.

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2018/09/07/an-obama-judge-said-michigans-voting-law-was-racially-motivated-a-higher-court-disagrees/>

(more)

## **NPR: Upcoming Redistricting Is a Backstory of 2018 Midterms**

The task of drawing new boundaries for thousands of federal and state legislative districts is still about three years away, yet the political battle over redistricting already is playing out in this year's midterm elections. In Colorado, Michigan, Missouri and Utah, campaigns are underway for November ballot initiatives that would change the redistricting process so it's less partisan and creates more competitive districts. National Democratic and Republican groups are pouring millions of dollars into state races seeking to ensure they have officeholders in position to influence the next round of redistricting.

<http://www.kunc.org/post/upcoming-redistricting-backstory-2018-midterms#stream/0>

### **STATES**

## **Alaska: Division of Elections to Conduct Statewide Review of Felon Voters**

Alaska Division of Elections is investigating how a convicted felon landed on the state's voter rolls, according to a letter sent to House Rep. George Rauscher (R-Sutton). Rauscher called for a statewide review of all precincts. He also seeks an investigation of how felons who have not had their voting privileges restored find their way onto the voter rolls.

<http://www.ktva.com/story/39025075/convicted-felon-found-on-voter-rolls>

## **California: Department of Motor Vehicles Registered 23,000 Voters Incorrectly**

California's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) told Secretary of State Alex Padilla that it made key errors in 23,000 voter registrations filed under the state's 2017 "motor voter" law. The 23,000 errant applications did not include any illegal aliens, the

DMV says. However, there were other crucial errors, including registering people who had opted out of registration, and registering some people with the wrong party preference.

<https://www.breitbart.com/california/2018/09/06/california-dmv-registers-23000-voters-incorrectly/>

## **Florida: Judge Orders State Officials to Provide Sample Ballots in Spanish**

A federal judge in Florida has ordered Secretary of State Kenneth Detzner to mandate that local election officials comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by providing sample ballots in Spanish. Plaintiffs asked for the materials because many people moved from Puerto Rico to Florida after Hurricane Maria and hope to cast ballots in the November general elections.

<https://www.npr.org/2018/09/07/645753328/judge-orders-florida-officials-to-provide-sample-ballots-in-spanish>

## **Kentucky: Complaints about Secretary of State Grimes' Alleged Abuse of Voter Records Raise Larger Questions of Election Security**

Last week's criminal indictments against her father and campaign consultant may render Alison Lundergan Grimes a political has-been. But questions about the oversight and security of Kentucky's elections will remain relevant even after Grimes finishes her final term as secretary of state next year.

<https://www.kentucky.com/opinion/editorials/article217857725.html>

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## New Mexico: Lawsuit Challenges Straight-Party Voting Option

Democratic Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver's decision to reinstate straight-party voting for the November general election has brought together an unlikely group of allies for a court challenge. The New Mexico Republican and Libertarian parties, along with two outside political groups and a Democratic write-in candidate, filed a petition with the state Supreme Court seeking to bar the straight-party voting option for the Nov. 6 election. In the 25-page court filing, the petitioners claim that Toulouse Oliver, a Democrat, overstepped her authority by bringing back straight-ticket voting without holding any public hearings. They also say Democrats stand to benefit from the move.

<https://www.abqjournal.com/1215573>

## North Carolina: Cooper, NAACP Both Lose Their Lawsuits Against State Legislators Over Constitutional Amendments

The N.C. Supreme Court handed losses to two lawsuits challenging the amendments. The court ruled against Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper in his lawsuit over two potential amendments that would take power away from the governor's office, and give that power to the legislature. Earlier in the day the court had also declined to hear an appeal from the North Carolina NAACP, which had sued over two different amendments that would create a new voter ID law and lower the state's maximum possible income tax rate.

<https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article217792500.html>

## Texas: AG Paxton Requests Additional Resources and Personnel to Combat Election Fraud

To ensure that the cornerstone of our democracy, the election process, is protected by investigating and prosecuting ever-increasing allegations of voter fraud, the OAG requested an increase in funding and employees toward this effort. Between 2005-2017, only 93 voter fraud cases were prosecuted by the state of Texas. In the past year alone, Attorney General Paxton's office prosecuted 87 counts of voting violations with only two attorneys and four investigators. In addition to receiving referrals for cases from the Secretary of State, the OAG proactively looks into instances of illegal votes and election fraud.

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/ag-paxton-requests-additional-resources-and-personnel-to-combat-human-traff>

## West Virginia: 'Cleansing' of Voter Registration Lists Went Well, County Clerks Say

Despite some hiccups, local county clerks say statewide maintenance that removed more than 100,000 names from voter registration lists has gone well. In August, Secretary of State Mac Warner announced that his office, working in conjunction with the 55 county clerks, had completed what he described as a long overdue "cleansing of the rolls."

<https://bit.ly/2CDzs48>

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## REDISTRICTING

### **North Carolina: Congressional Elections to Proceed as Scheduled with Same Maps, Court Rules**

North Carolina's 13 congressional districts will remain in place and so will the Nov. 6, 2018 election, a federal three-judge panel ruled. The panel ruled last week that the districts are unconstitutional due to "partisan gerrymandering" designed to produce 10 Republican seats. But, with the election only two months away, the plaintiffs in the case—the North Carolina chapters of Common Cause and The League of Women Voters—argued that it was too late to change the maps despite their victory. On Tuesday, the court agreed.

<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/article217814710.html>

### **Virginia: Republican House Speaker Kirk Cox Appeals Redistricting Ruling to U.S. Supreme Court**

The Republican speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates has filed a formal appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday seeking to overturn a court ruling that found 11 House districts were unconstitutionally gerrymandered. A federal court ruled in June that lawmakers illegally packed African-American voters into the 11 districts and ordered lawmakers to redraw them by Oct. 30. Republicans say the districts are constitutional, and they filed notice in July that they would appeal.

<https://bit.ly/2CDzs48>

### **State-Level Redistricting Fights Involve Plenty of Money Moves**

While Democrats and Republicans are struggling for control of Congress, there's another important battle brewing over state legislatures. Edwin Bender, executive director of the National Institute of Money in Politics explained, "Every 10 years we go through an election cycle, and the winners of that get the prize of being in control of the redistricting process in the states. And that redistricting process often means that the parties in control of the process can create districts that benefit them come the next election cycle."

<https://www.marketplace.org/2018/09/03/elections/political-redistricting-battle-state-level-years-midterms-and-money-behind-it>