

Lexis Nexis Rule of Law Foundation  
**US Voting Law and  
Legislation Center**



## LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation

Mission: Engage in advocacy and awareness to advance the Rule of Law around the world

- Advancing the rule of law is core to LexisNexis; we drive meaningful impact through our commercial business activities and non-profit initiatives. Foundation established in 2019 to further our mission.
- Rule of Law means that “no one is above the law”. We define it with four main components:
  1. Transparency of law, meaning everyone has access to the published law;
  2. Equality for all under the law, which means that everyone, whether you are a citizen or a monarch, rich or poor, you must be treated the same by the law
  3. An independent judiciary, that is not influenced by other parties and makes judgments solely based on the law and the facts; and
  4. Access to legal remedy, meaning individuals must have access to resolution in a court of law.
- According to the recent *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index*, evaluating 140 countries and jurisdictions around the world, the Rule of Law has declined over the past 5 years in more countries than those in which it has improved.

Equality Under  
the Law

+

Transparency  
of Law

+

Independent  
Judiciary

+

Accessible Legal  
Remedy

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= The Rule of Law

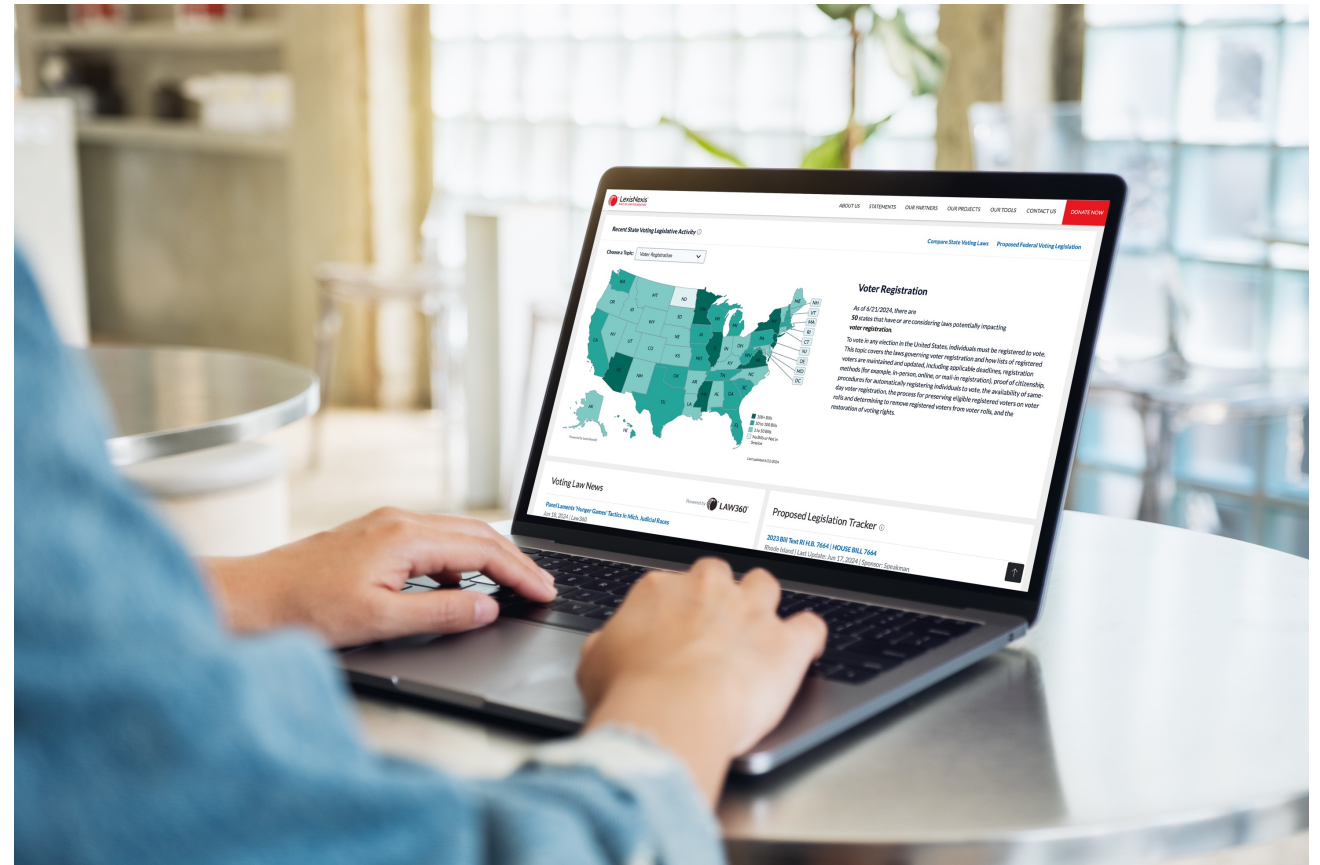
# LexisNexis and Election Law

## Introducing the Lexis Nexis U.S. Voting Laws and Legislation Center

- A LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation project, the U.S. Voting Laws and Legislation Center, **provides free public access to over 40,000 US State and Federal voting laws and related legislative changes.**
- This resource was created by a LexisNexis team of more than 50 employee volunteers. A few highlights:
  - ✓ The tool is an unbiased, non-partisan, data driven source for understanding the current laws, and changes over time.
  - ✓ We collaborated with various organizations including the Uniform Law Commission and the National Conference of State Legislators.
  - ✓ Employee volunteers brought this Rule of Law idea to life with innovation, expertise, customer focus and hard work.
  - ✓ Illustrates how Lexis Nexis leveraged our core business assets, in this case our technology, content, and our people, to fully support our mission to advance the Rule of Law.

## Overview: LexisNexis U.S. Voting Laws & Legislation Center

- A free resource for public access to over 40,000 voting and election laws with real-time updates
- Designed to educate and inform
- Provides timely, fact-based, and unbiased data with graphics, search functionality, and full-text access
- You can find this resource at the Lexis Nexis Rule of Law Foundation website:  
<https://www.lexisnexisrolfoundation.org/>
- Supports transparency of the law – one of the LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation’s fundamental themes
- Launched to the public in August, 2022



# LexisNexis US Voting Law and Legislation Center: Key Features

LexisNexis® U.S. Voting Laws & Legislation Center

Transparency is a critical cornerstone of the Rule of Law. This voting law tool is provided by the LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation to provide citizens with free access to the most comprehensive collection of US voting laws, legislative developments, and news.

Search by keyword, bill name, sponsor, etc.

Recent State Voting Legislative Activity

Choose a Topic: All Topic Activity

Summary of Recent State Voting Legislative Activity

50 states and the District of Columbia have introduced legislation impacting existing voting laws:

- 50 states and the District of Columbia have or are considering legislation impacting Absentee Voting requirements
- 50 states and the District of Columbia have or are considering legislation impacting Election Infrastructure requirements
- 50 states have or are considering legislation impacting In-Person Voting requirements
- 50 states have or are considering legislation impacting Voter Registration requirements
- 49 states have or are considering legislation impacting Bi-Election requirements
- 48 states have or are considering legislation impacting Voting Proof of Citizenship requirements
- 46 states have or are considering legislation impacting Voter ID requirements
- 39 states have or are considering legislation impacting Early Voting requirements
- 21 states have or are considering legislation impacting Voting Leave requirements
- 12 states have or are considering legislation impacting Voting & Religion requirements

100+ Bills  
50 to 100 Bills  
1 to 50 Bills  
No Bills or Not in Session

Powered by LexisNexis®

Last updated 6/11/2024

Voting Law News

Powered by LAW360

Proposed Legislation Tracker

- 2024 Bill Text CO H.B. 1450 | HOUSE BILL 1450  
Colorado | Last Update: Jun 7, 2024 | Sponsor: Joplin
- 2024 Bill Text NJ S.B. 2920 | SENATE BILL 2920  
New Jersey | Last Update: Jun 5, 2024 | Sponsor: Carls
- 2022 Bill Text PA S.B. 1076 | SENATE BILL 1076  
Pennsylvania | Last Update: Jun 4, 2024 | Sponsor: Kearney

Quickly find factual answers to your voting and election law questions

## Features:

- Powerful search capabilities
- Direct access to text of laws
- Interactive map
- Summary of activity by jurisdiction
- News feed of current voting law events
- Recent legislation tracker

# Illustration: Filter Search by Category of Law

[Home](#) / [Our Tools](#) / [U.S. Voting Laws & Legislation Center](#)

## LexisNexis® U.S. Voting Laws & Legislation Center

Transparency is a critical cornerstone of the Rule of Law. This voting law tool is provided by the LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation to provide citizens with free access to the most comprehensive collection of US voting laws, legislative developments, and news.

What are the rules for validating a signature on a mail in ballot?

Enacted Laws

All Jurisdictions



Proposed Legislation

Enacted Laws

Recently Enacted Laws

Failed Legislation

Cases

### Recent State Voting Legislative Activity ⓘ

Choose a Topic:

All Topic Activity



### Summary of Recent State Voting Legislative Activity

50 states and the District of Columbia have introduced legislation impacting existing voting laws:

50 states and the District of Columbia have or are considering legislation impacting

[Compare State Voting Laws](#)

[Proposed Federal Voting Legislation](#)

# Illustration: Filter Search by Jurisdiction

## LexisNexis® U.S. Voting Laws & Legislation Center

Transparency is a critical cornerstone of the Rule of Law. This voting law tool is provided by the LexisNexis Rule of Law Foundation to provide citizens with free access to the most comprehensive collection of US voting laws, legislative developments, and news.

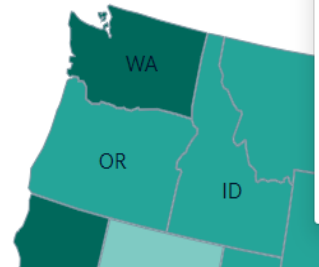
What are the rules for validating a signature on a mail in ballot? Enacted Laws 1 Jurisdiction Q

Jurisdiction [All](#) | [None](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> U.S.Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware	<input type="checkbox"/> Iowa	<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Washington
<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/> Dist. of Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi	<input type="checkbox"/> New York	<input type="checkbox"/> South Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> West Virginia
<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/> Florida	<input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky	<input type="checkbox"/> Missouri	<input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> South Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona	<input type="checkbox"/> Georgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Montana	<input type="checkbox"/> North Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee	<input type="checkbox"/> Wyoming
<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii	<input type="checkbox"/> Maine	<input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> Texas	
<input type="checkbox"/> California	<input type="checkbox"/> Idaho	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada	<input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma	<input type="checkbox"/> Utah	
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire	<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon	<input type="checkbox"/> Vermont	
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania	<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia	

### Recent State Voting Legislation

Choose a Topic: [All Topic Activity](#)



### Proposed Federal Voting Legislation

### Legislative Activity

introduced legislation

er legislation impacting

Absentee Voting requirements

# Illustration: Results List

Results for: **What are the rules for validating a signature on a mail in ballot?**

Run New Search

Proposed Legislation	325
Enacted Laws	886
Recently Enacted Laws	7
Failed Legislation	0
Cases	78
Topics	▼
Jurisdiction	1 ▼

FILTERS

Jurisdiction: Michigan X

Clear

Sort By: Relevance ▼

**§ 168.759a. Absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter; electronic transmission of voter registration or ballot application; requirements; spouse or dependent; electronic transmission of ballot to voter; establishment and implementation of procedures by secretary of state; confidentiality of electronic mailing address; approval of ballot form and registration procedures by state director of elections; use of federal write-in absentee ballot; report; selection of political party ballot for presidential primary election; extension of ballot receipt deadline; definitions.**

Michigan; Current Law; Citation: MCLS § 168.759a  
Topics: Absentee Voting | Mail-In Voting | Military Voting | Overseas Voting | Permanent Absentee Voting | Election Infrastructure | Ballots | Voter Registration

Summary: Michigan Absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter; electronic transmission of voter registration or ballot application; requirements; spouse or dependent; electronic transmission of ballot to voter; establishment and implementation of procedures by secretary of state; confidentiality of electronic mailing address; approval of ballot form and registration procedures by state director of elections; use of federal write-in absentee ballot; report; selection of political party ballot for presidential primary election; extension of ballot receipt deadline; definitions. § 168.759a. Sec. 759a. (1) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter who is not registered, but possessed the qualifications of...

... If the ballots are not yet available at the time of receipt of the application, the clerk shall immediately forward to the applicant the registration forms and instructions, and forward the ballots as soon as they are available.... Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the voter shall print the absent voter ballot and return the voted ballot by mail to the appropriate clerk.... Subject to subsection (17), beginning September 1, 2025, a member of a uniformed service on active duty, by reason of being on active duty, or a member of the merchant marine, who is absent from the United States and does not expect to return to the residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote before an election may electronically return a voted ballot to the appropriate city or township clerk to be counted under the rules promulgated by the secretary of state as set forth in subsection (17).... As used in this subsection, "eligible member" means a member of a uniformed service on active duty or a member of the merchant marine, as described in subsection (6) or (13). (18) If the absent voter ballot return envelope containing a marked absent voter ballot for an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter is postmarked on or before election day and the absent voter ballot is received by mail by the city or township clerk within 6 days after the election, the city or township clerk shall consider that absent voter ballot timely received.... If the ballots are not yet available at the time of receipt of the application, the clerk shall immediately forward to the applicant the registration forms and instructions, and forward the ballots as soon as they are available....

**§ 168.759. Application to vote absentee; time; manner; form; signature of applicant; false statement as misdemeanor.**

Michigan; Current Law; Citation: MCLS § 168.759  
Topics: Absentee Voting | Mail-In Voting | Permanent Absentee Voting | Election Infrastructure | Ballots | Voter Registration

Summary: Michigan Application to vote absentee; time; manner; form; signature of applicant; false statement as misdemeanor. § 168.759. Sec. 759. (1) A registered elector may apply for an absent voter ballot in any of the following ways: (a) By a written request signed by the elector. (b) On an absent voter ballot application form as provided for in this section. (c) On a federal postcard application. (d) Using an online absent voter ballot application as provided by the secretary of state. (2) A registered elector may submit an absent voter ballot application in any of the following ways:...

... A registered elector may apply for an absent voter ballot in any of the following ways: (a) By a... An absent voter ballot application that is submitted and missing a signature is subject to the requirements of sections 761 and 766a. (4) An absent voter ballot application submitted before a primary election may be for either that primary election only, or for that primary election and for each election that follows the primary election in that year.... (c) In either (a) or (b), a member of the immediate family of the voter including a father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, or grandchild or an individual residing in the elector's household may mail or deliver the application to the clerk for the applicant....

**§ 168.761. Absent voter ballots; mailing or delivering to applicant; order of issuance; numbering; return envelope; form; statement; false statement as misdemeanor or felony; presentation of picture identification card; affidavit; challenged ballot.**

Michigan; Current Law; Citation: MCLS § 168.761  
Topics: Election Infrastructure | Ballots

Summary: Michigan Absent voter ballots; mailing or delivering to applicant; order of issuance; numbering; return envelope; form; statement; false statement as misdemeanor or felony; presentation of picture identification card; affidavit; challenged ballot. § 168.761. Sec. 761. (1) If the clerk of a city or township receives an application for an absent voter ballot, the clerk must immediately determine if the applicant is registered to vote in that city or township and if the signature on the application agrees sufficiently with the signature on file for the individual as required in subsection (2). The clerk must immediately, upon verification...

... Sec. 761. (1) If the clerk of a city or township receives an application for an absent voter ballot, the clerk must immediately determine if the applicant is registered to vote in that city or township and if the signature on the application agrees sufficiently with the signature on file for the individual as required in subsection (2).... If the city or township clerk determines that the individual is registered to vote in a different city or township, the city or township clerk must electronically forward the application to the clerk of the city or township in which the individual is registered. (2) The signature on file must be used to determine the genuineness of a signature on an application for an absent voter ballot.... If the applicant cures the deficiency as provided under section 766a by 4 p.m. on the fourth day before the... The individual shall receive the absent voter ballot, mark the absent voter ballot in a clerk's office, and return the absent voter ballot to the clerk in the absent voter ballot return envelope....

**§ 168.766a. Verification of signature; rejection of ballot; opportunity to cure; manner; notice; "signature on file" defined.**

Michigan; Current Law; Citation: MCLS § 168.766a  
Topics: Election Infrastructure | Ballots

Summary: Michigan Verification of signature; rejection of ballot; opportunity to cure; manner; notice; "signature on file" defined. § 168.766a. Sec. 766a. (1) A clerk may determine that a signature on an elector's absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot envelope does not agree sufficiently with the signature on file only after reviewing the signature using the process set forth in this section. (2) An elector's signature is invalid only if it differs in significant and obvious respects from the elector's signature on file. Slight dissimilarities must be resolved in favor of the elector. Exact signature matches are...

... the elector's signature on file. Slight dissimilarities must be resolved in favor of the elector. Exact signature... As used in this chapter, "signature on file" means any of the following: (a) Any signature of an... (c) Only for purposes of the signature comparison conducted under section 766 for an elector's absent voter ballot envelope, the signature on the elector's absent voter ballot application....

# Illustration: Document View

## MCLS § 168.766a

### § 168.766a. Verification of signature; rejection of ballot; opportunity to cure; manner; notice; "signature on file" defined.

Sec. 766a.

- (1) A clerk may determine that a signature on an elector's absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot envelope does not agree sufficiently with the signature on file only after reviewing the signature using the process set forth in this section.
- (2) An elector's signature is invalid only if it differs in significant and obvious respects from the elector's signature on file. Slight dissimilarities must be resolved in favor of the elector. Exact signature matches are not required to determine that a signature agrees sufficiently with the signature on file.
- (3) If a clerk determines that the elector's signature on the absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope is missing or does not agree sufficiently with the signature on file, the clerk shall reject the absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope and provide the elector with notice and the opportunity to cure the deficiency as provided in this section. The clerk shall notify the elector of all of the following:
- The nature of the deficiency and that the deficiency has resulted in the rejection of the elector's absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope.
  - The need to cure the deficiency in order for the absent voter ballot application to be accepted or for the absent voter ballot to be tabulated.
  - How to cure the deficiency.
  - The deadline for curing the deficiency.
  - The alternative methods of voting if the deficiency is not cured.
- (4) The clerk shall notify the elector of the deficiency described in subsection (3) within the deadlines specified under section 766b. The clerk must notify the elector by telephone, email, or text message, if available. In the absence of the elector's telephone number or email address, the clerk must notify the elector by United States mail. The clerk may also provide notice to the elector by any other available methods of contact. Electronic notification of the rejection of the absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope under section 766c that provides the information required by this section constitutes sufficient notification to the elector.
- (5) An elector may cure a deficiency described in subsection (3) by completing and submitting a cure form. The secretary of state shall prescribe the content and requirements of the cure form. An elector shall be permitted to receive and return a cure form electronically, in person, or by mail with postage prepaid as a supplement to the prepaid postage for the absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope. The city or township clerk in which the elector is registered may physically collect a cure form from the elector. A cure form must provide the elector the option to cure a deficiency in the elector's absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope by signing the statement required for the absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope under section 759 or 761. The secretary of state shall modify the statements to reflect that the elector is signing a cure form for the absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope rather than the original absent voter ballot application or absent voter ballot return envelope. An elector must be permitted to submit an electronic image of the elector's physical signature in lieu of a physical signature for a cure form returned electronically. A clerk shall accept a cure form submitted under this subsection if the signature on the cure form agrees sufficiently with the signature on file, using the process as provided in this section. If the clerk determines that the signature on the cure form does not agree sufficiently with the signature on file, the clerk shall reject the cure form and contact the elector to provide information on other options to cure the deficiency and to provide the alternative methods of voting available for that election.

### Document Text View

- Direct access to the legislation and laws themselves
- Users have first-hand access to the facts, without spin or bias
- Search terms highlighted in document

# Illustration: State Voting Law Comparison Grid

Search by topic across states to compare and contrast the laws

A summary of the voting methods and options permitted by law for each state.

✓ Indicates methods and options permitted, specific implementations vary by state

Updated as of 06/17/2024

Filter: 3 States

Abse State All None

<input type="checkbox"/> U.S.Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware	<input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii	<input type="checkbox"/> Iowa	<input type="checkbox"/> Maine	<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Texas	<input type="checkbox"/> Washington
<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/> California	<input type="checkbox"/> Dist. of Columbia	<input type="checkbox"/> Idaho	<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland	<input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada	<input type="checkbox"/> New York	<input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma	<input type="checkbox"/> South Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> Utah	<input type="checkbox"/> West Virginia
<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado	<input type="checkbox"/> Florida	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky	<input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/> Missouri	<input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire	<input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> Oregon	<input type="checkbox"/> South Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> Vermont	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona	<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/> Georgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Montana	<input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/> North Dakota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania	<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee	<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia	<input type="checkbox"/> Wyoming

Cancel Apply

Alaska	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arizona	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arkansas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
California	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Colorado	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Connecticut	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Delaware	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dist. Of Columbia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Florida	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Georgia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hawaii	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Idaho	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Illinois	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Indiana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Iowa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kansas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Comparison Grid Example:**

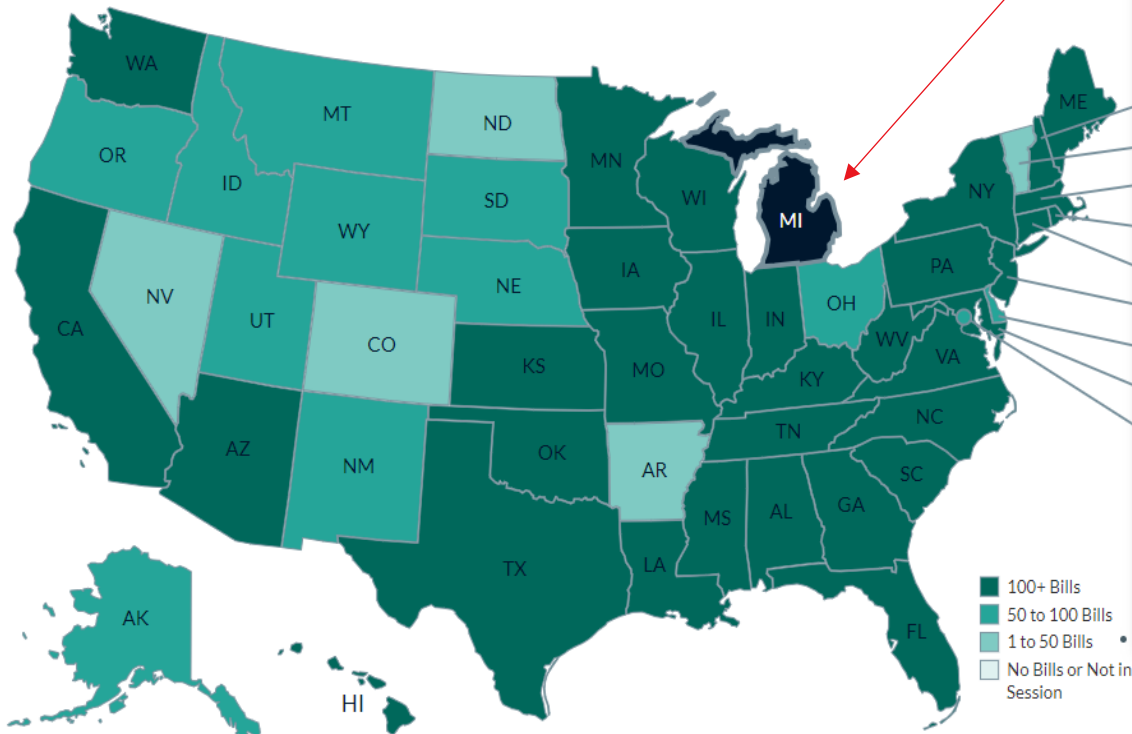
- Search 'mail in voting' laws across selected states – or ALL states
- Click on checked boxes to see state law text
- Compare and contrast text of actual laws

# Interactive Map – Search for Activity by State

Focus your search to view legislation in your jurisdiction

## Recent State Voting Legislative Activity ⓘ

Choose a Topic:



100+ Bills  
50 to 100 Bills  
1 to 50 Bills  
No Bills or Not in Session

Last updated 6/17/2024

## Michigan Proposed Legislation

[Current Michigan Voting Laws](#) ✕

### [2023 Bill Text MI S.B. 749 | SENATE BILL 749](#)

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for various state departments and agencies, the executive office, the judiciary, and the legislature for the fiscal...

Last Update: May 14, 2024 | Sponsor: Anthony

### [2023 Bill Text MI S.B. 756 | SENATE BILL 756](#)

A bill to make appropriations for the department of corrections for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025; and to provide for the expenditure of...

Last Update: May 9, 2024 | Sponsor: Shink

Topics: Voter Registration

### [2023 Bill Text MI S.B. 603 | SENATE BILL 603](#)

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116 , entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 2, 822, 825, 827, 828, 842, 861, 862, 863, 865,...

Last Update: Apr 30, 2024 | Sponsor: Chang

Topics: Absentee Voting | By-Elections | Early Voting | Election Infrastructure | Ballots | Election Audits | Election Technology | Polling Sites | In-Person Voting | Polling Sites

[See more Michigan Proposed Legislation](#)

Powered by LexisNexis®

21 states have or are considering legislation impacting **Voting Leave** requirements

12 states have or are considering legislation impacting **Voting & Religion** requirements



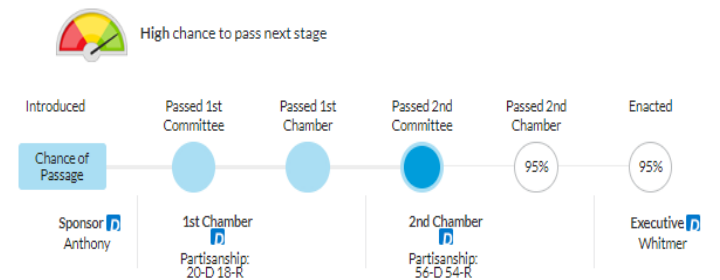
# Bill Text View: Legislative Outlook Predictive Analytics

## 2023 Bill Text MI S.B. 749

Reprint, May 14, 2024

THE STATE OF MICHIGAN BILL TEXT > MICHIGAN 102ND LEGISLATURE - FIRST REGULAR SESSION > SENATE  
BILL 749

### Progress and Chance of Passage



Session Status: In session

Sponsor: Anthony  
Years in office: 2

### Legislative Outlook:

- Visually displays likelihood of bill passage
- Based on Lexis Nexis State Net legislative tracking data
- Uses a selection of criteria (party sponsor information, past committee track record, party affiliations, etc.) to provide a data-based factual assessment
- Public access to these analytics allows users to see how laws might be changed in the future, so they can be prepared or take action in advance

## New Feature : Case Law Added

Key voting law cases now available:

- Court opinions interpret election and voting laws
  - Users can see how courts interpreted voting laws in important topic categories (e.g., mail-in voting)
  - Captures current court activity that changes the law
  - Further supports 'transparency of the law'
- Case summary included to explain law in clear, concise terms
  - Provides ease of use, readability



# Illustration: Cases Interpreting Michigan Mail-In Voting Law

Proposed Legislation	290
Enacted Laws	406
Recently Enacted Laws	7
Failed Legislation	0
Cases	75

FILTERS

Topics  
Timeline

Sort By Relevance

## In re Request for Advisory Opinion Regarding Constitutionality of 2005 PA 71, 479 Mich. 1

Michigan; Last Update: Jul 18, 2007

Topics: Voter ID

Summary: In advisory opinion to Michigan's House of Representatives, the Supreme Court of Michigan concluded that MCL 168.523(1)'s requirement of presenting photo identification...

... If an elector's signature contained in the qualified voter file is available in the polling place, the election official shall compare the signature upon the application with the digitized signature provided by the qualified voter file.... If the signature or an item of information does not correspond, the vote of the person shall be challenged, and the same procedure shall be followed as provided in this act for the challenging of an elector.... For example, one newspaper article stated that it appeared that approximately 40 people who are dead cast votes in the primary election in August 2006 out of 134,629 votes cast in Detroit. Many Names on City's Voter Lists may not Belong, Detroit Free Press, November 3, 2006, 1B.... Building Confidence in U.S. Elections, supra. And it is certainly relevant to consider the effect that photo identification requirements have had in states that have enacted identification requirements.... Raising needless impediments to voting or creating artificial requirements to have one's vote counted are steps backward."). But the photo identification requirement is yet another obstacle that a citizen must overcome as he proceeds along the path to exercise his fundamental right to vote....

## Nienstedt v. Sec'y of State, 510 Mich. 1022

Michigan; Last Update: Nov 4, 2022

Topics: Absentee Voting | Mail-in Voting

Summary: nstedt v. Sec'y of State SC: 164807 Supreme Court of Michigan 510 Mich. 1022 980 N.W.2d 721 2022 Mich. LEXIS 1976 2022 WL 16709521 November 4, 2022, Decided Bridget M. McCormack, Chief Justice. Brian K. Zahra, David F. Viviano, Richard H. Bernstein, Elizabeth T. Clement, Megan K. Cavanagh, Elizabeth M. Welch, Justices. VIVIANO, J. (concurring). Order On order of the Court, the complaint for superintending control is considered, and relief is DENIED, because the Court is not persuaded that it should grant the...

...A significant portion of the modern appellate judge's job is to parse the language of constitutions, statutes, regulations, and other rules and sources of law. As in most modes of communication, it is generally a safe assumption that the language in such texts was chosen deliberately.... In Michigan, the full text of constitutional amendments is not sent to voters and does not appear on the ballot itself.... Const 1963, art 12, § 2; MCL 168.482(3). But when this Court recently considered the petition requirement, a majority concluded that the pervasive lack of spacing between words in the amendment at issue was no obstacle to its placement on the ballot.... Measures such as these ensure that voters can take time to study the actual text of the proposed law that they will be asked to vote upon in the election. There are no comparable provisions in our law. Instead, as noted, the single time our law provides for at least some voters to be formally presented with the proposed text is when they sign a petition to put it on the ballot.... For the process to properly function, voters need a full and fair chance to read and consider the words that may govern them and the state. I strongly encourage the Legislature to consider adopting a requirement that voters be provided with the full text of any proposed constitutional amendments or laws that they will be asked to vote upon....

## Ferency v. Secretary of State, 409 Mich. 569

Michigan; Last Update: Sep 12, 1980

Topics: Election Infrastructure | Ballots

Summary: State constitution's popular amendment provision required only that signature petitions cite existing constitutional provisions that would have been directly altered or abridged by proposal.

# New Feature: Case Summaries

## Core Terms

machines, voting, election, candidates, ballots, row, name of a candidate, automatic, voters

## Case Summary

### Procedural Posture

Plaintiff voter appealed a judgment of the lower court (Michigan), which dismissed his action seeking to enjoin defendant city from purchasing certain automatic voting machines and from using the machines in public elections.

### Overview

The voter filed a bill of complaint seeking to enjoin the city from purchasing and using certain automatic voting machines based on alleged defects in the machines. The lower court granted the city's motion to dismiss the bill on the ground that the bill did not state a cause of action, and the voter appealed. The court held that: (1) the city had the power to purchase and use voting machines pursuant to Mich. Comp. Laws §§ 191.2 and 191.6 (1948); (2) under § 191.6, the city could provide paper ballots when confronted with a primary or general election in which the voting machine was unable to accommodate all the names of candidates; (3) § 165.3 provided for rotating names of candidates by precincts, i.e., the machine in one precinct had the order of names of candidates changed from the order in another precinct; and (4) the bill was insufficient to show that the action of the city was ultra vires or fraudulent, or that the machines were not in compliance with statutory requirements. The judgment was affirmed.

### Outcome

The court affirmed the judgment dismissing the voter's bill of complaint.

## Case Summaries

- A concise, readable summary of the case
- Designed to include the procedural background of the case, the overview and the outcome.
- Saves document review time and builds understanding
- Written by Lexis Nexis expert attorney editors

# New Feature: AI-Generated Statutes Summaries

Statutory text is easier to read and understand

MCLS § 168.759

Statute Summary Generated by AI

**Topics**  
This statute is about absentee voting in Michigan. It covers:

- How voters can apply for an absentee ballot
- Requirements for absentee ballot applications
- Instructions that must be provided with applications
- Rules around distributing and returning applications
- Online absentee ballot application through the Secretary of State

**Key Requirements**  
The statute imposes these key requirements:

- Voters must sign absentee ballot applications
- Clerks must make applications available and distribute them upon request
- Applications must be in a specified form with required content
- Only authorized individuals can distribute and return applications
- False statements on applications are a misdemeanor

**Targeted Individuals or Entities**  
The statute applies to:

- Voters requesting and submitting absentee ballots
- Clerks providing and processing absentee ballot applications
- Individuals distributing or returning absentee ballot applications

This summary is generated by AI technology. AI generated content should be reviewed for accuracy. Copy

## AI Statute Summaries

- Available on statutes of qualifying length
- Targeted, concise, readable
- Designed to include the statute's main topics, key requirements and the targeted individuals or entities impacted by the statute
- Allows both legal professionals and non-legal users to more quickly review the scope of otherwise dense statutory text
- Created with Lexis Nexis authoritative content and experienced attorney oversight – leveraging our commercial work with Lexis+AI

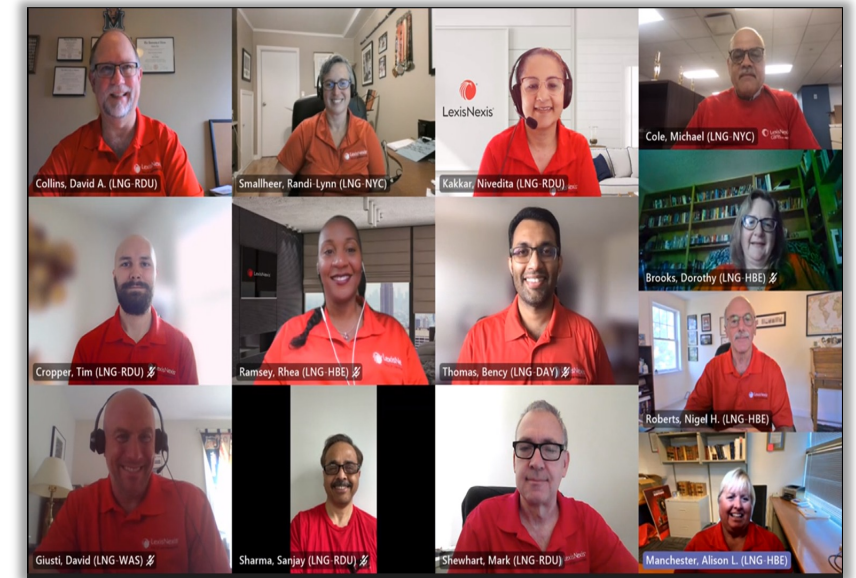
§ 168.759. Application to **vote** absentee; time; manner; form; **signature** of applicant; false statement as misdemeanor.

Sec. 759.

## Wrap Up / Q & A

### In summary:

- Lexis Nexis Rule of Law Foundation: Mission is to engage in advocacy and support of Rule of Law around the world.
- Lexis Nexis US Voting Law and Legislation Center: furthers rule of law mission – especially promotes transparency of the law, one of our core principles.
- The website is a public resource, free to all
- Offers the ability to see the law first-hand, based on factual data, without interpretation or potential bias
- Kept up to date and captures current activity as it happens
- Leverages Lexis Nexis core competencies of robust legal content, cutting edge technology and the expertise and passion of our people
- More enhancements to come, as we continue to build out additional features and content to help educate and inform, especially in advance of the 2024 Presidential Election this fall.



Lexis Nexis Voting Law Volunteer Team



**Thank You**