**Election Integrity Scorecard:**

***Assessing the Status of State Laws* Needed for Election Fairness and Security**

Elections belong to the people.

—Abraham Lincoln

Every citizen's vote is sacred. The vote is how we guarantee that our government remains of the people, by the people, and for the people. Americans need and deserve elections that they can trust. Legitimate voters should be able to vote in privacy without being harassed, secure in the knowledge that their vote will not be lost, stolen, altered, or negated by a vote cast by an illegitimate voter (for examples, see The Heritage Foundation's [Election Fraud Database](https://www.heritage.org/voterfraud)). Americans need and deserve a transparent system in which fraud can be easily detected and false allegations of fraud can be easily dispelled. Americans need and deserve a system in which it is easy to vote and hard to cheat.

In order to help voters, state legislators, election officials, and all Americans who are interested in ensuring a fair and secure election process, The Heritage Foundation has published this *Election Integrity Scorecard*, which compares the election laws and regulations of each state and the District of Columbia that affect the security and integrity of the process to the Foundation's best-practices recommendations.

As a reminder, however, even the best laws are not worth much if responsible officials do not enforce them rigorously. It is up to the citizens of each state to make sure that their elected and appointed public officials do just that.

Note: The scorecard was first published Dec. 14, 2021, assessing all state election laws as currently written. It will be regularly updated as states make reforms and changes to those laws.

**Explore the Scorecard:**

[**https://www.heritage.org/electionscorecard/index.html**](https://www.heritage.org/electionscorecard/index.html)

[About Heritage](https://www.heritage.org/about-heritage/mission) [Events](https://www.heritage.org/events) [Renew](https://secured.heritage.org/renew/?utm_source=heritagefoundation&utm_medium=textlink&utm_campaign=donate&utm_content=heritage_org_renew_topnav) [Donate](https://secured.heritage.org/?utm_source=heritagefoundation&utm_medium=textlink&utm_campaign=donate&utm_content=heritage_org_donate_topnav) [Press](https://www.heritage.org/press) [Contact](https://www.heritage.org/contact)

[Copyright](https://www.heritage.org/article/copyright-notice)

© 2022, The Heritage Foundation