

NEW TEXAS LAW REQUIRES VOTERS TO SHOW QUALIFIED PHOTO ID IN 2012

If federal approval is given to a new Texas law, voters will be required to show one of the following qualified photo IDs at the polls in 2012:

- Texas Department of Public Safety-issued driver's license, personal ID card, concealed weapons permit, or election identification certificate; or
- US government-issued passport, military ID, or citizenship papers that include a photo.

The election identification certificate will be available with proper identification at no cost from DPS in 2012 to voters who lack a qualified photo ID.

Except for citizenship papers, the ID must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before voting.

At the Polls

Poll workers will check that:

- the photo is of the voter and
- the names on the ID and voter registration list match.

The voter registration name can be changed to match the ID online or by contacting the county voter registrar. If names match, ID and voter registration addresses do not need to match.

Voters without a qualified photo ID can vote a provisional ballot and present a qualified photo ID within 6 days. If otherwise eligible and ID is presented, the ballot will count.

Exceptions

- Photo ID is not required of those who vote by mail.
- Voters with documentation of disability and no photo ID may apply for an exemption from the voter registrar.
- Voters without a qualified ID because of a natural disaster or a religious objection to being photographed may vote a provisional ballot and sign an affidavit within 6 days.

Obtaining a Qualified Photo ID

may require documentation such as a birth certificate and take several weeks. If the law is approved, voters without a qualified photo ID should allow sufficient time to obtain required documents and apply for the ID.

Additional Information

- LWV-TX, 1-512-472-1100, www.lwvtexas.org.
- Texas Secretary of State, 1-800-252-8683, www.votexas.org
- Your County Clerk or Election Administrator

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