



OUR HOMES, OUR VOTES

2020

BECAUSE HOUSING IS BUILT WITH BALLOTS



NATIONAL LOW INCOME
HOUSING COALITION

**Please standby.
We will begin momentarily.**



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NATIONAL LOW INCOME
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**Helpful Tools and Partners for
Election Engagement**

General Logistics



- We will allow for time at the end of today's webinar for questions. If you have a question, please use the Q&A box in your webinar browser.
- We will provide access to both a video recording and a copy of today's slides to all participants following the webinar.
- If you are experiencing any technical difficulties, please send an email to Brooke Schipporeit at bschipporeit@nlihc.org.



Presenters



Maggie Bush

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League of Women Voters

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National Low Income Housing Coalition

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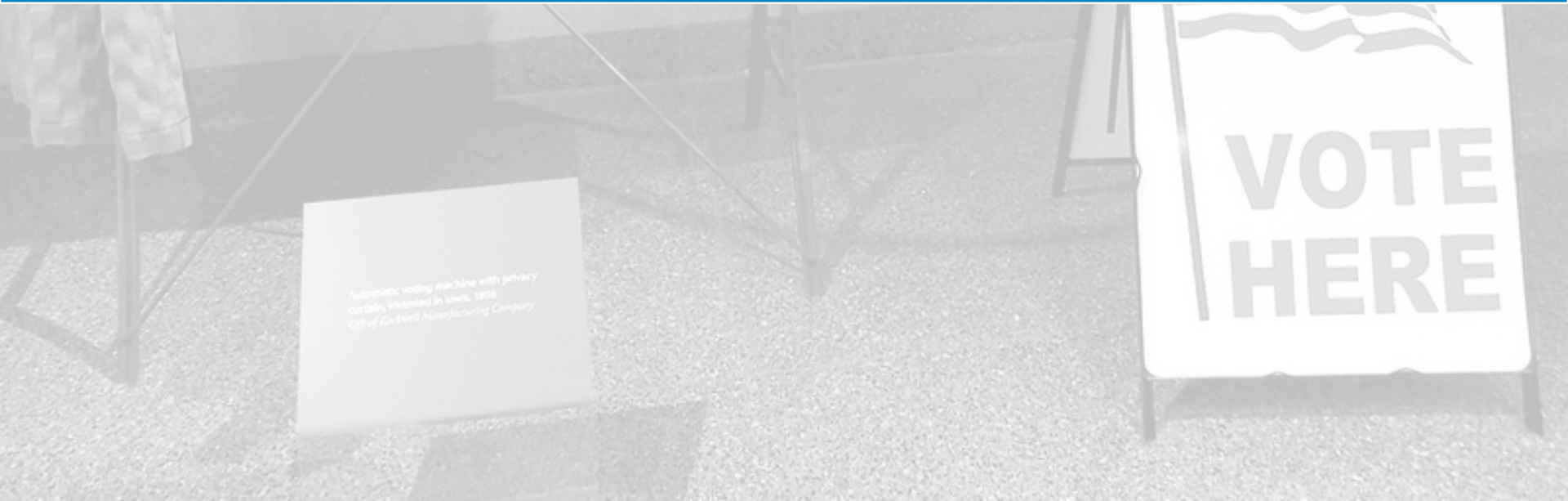
Agenda



1. Brief review of *Our Homes, Our Votes: 2020*
2. Presidential candidate engagement update
3. Feature topic: Helpful partners and tools for an effective election engagement campaign
4. Question and Answer
5. Upcoming topics for webinars and podcasts



INTRODUCTION



Engaging Voters and Candidates



Our Homes, Our Votes is NLIHC's voter engagement effort focusing on increasing voter registration and turnout amongst low income housing renters and advocates.

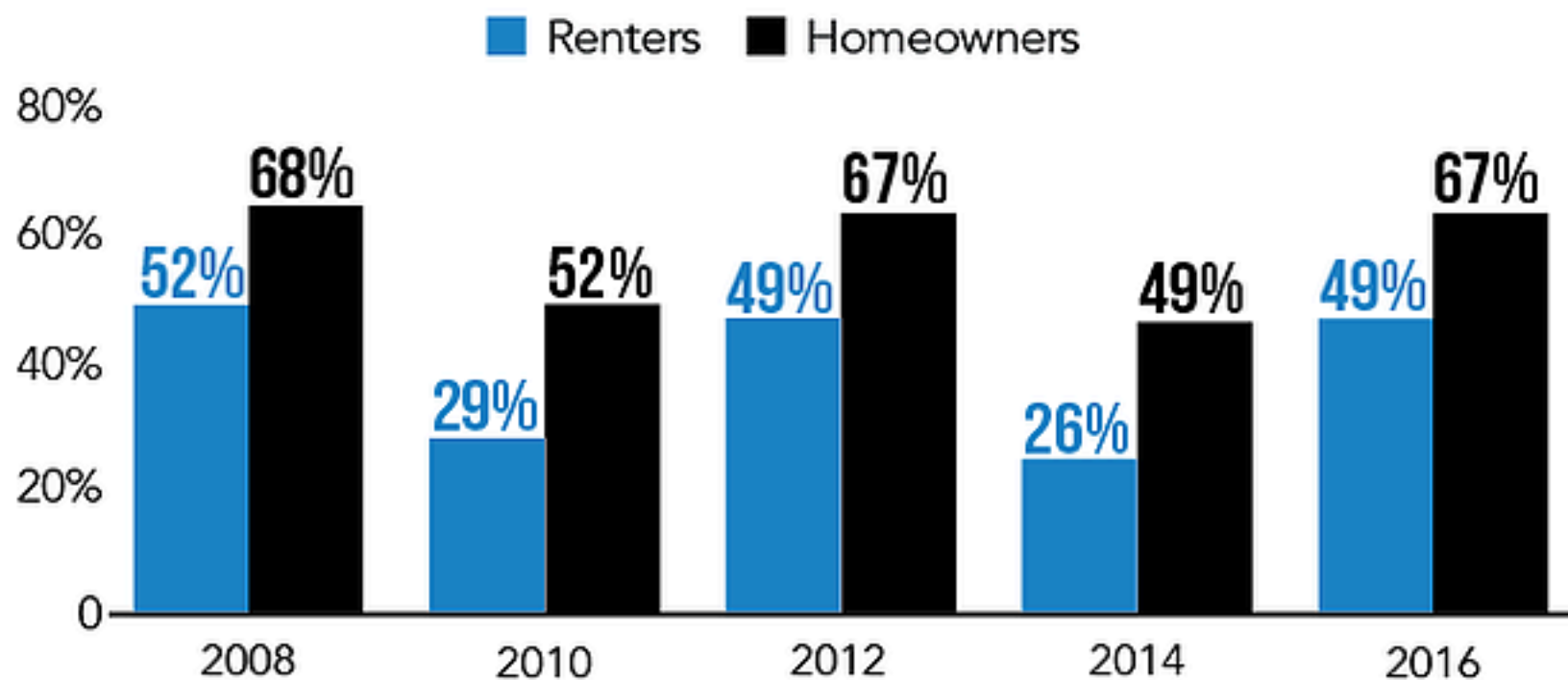
REGISTRATION

MOBILIZATION

**I AM A
RENTER
AND
I VOTE**

EDUCATION

U.S. CITIZENS WHO REPORTED VOTING IN NATIONAL ELECTIONS BY HOUSING TENURE (2008 TO 2016)

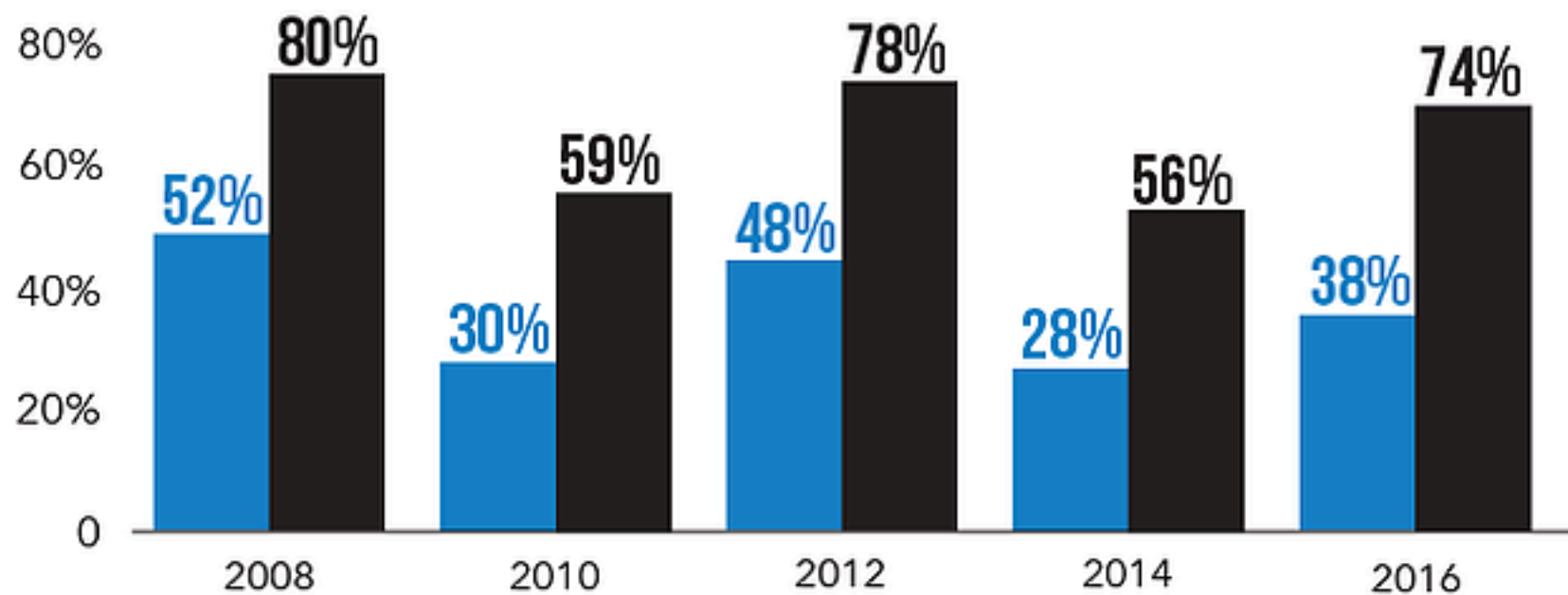


Source: November 2006-2016 Current Population Survey data

U.S. CITIZENS WHO REPORTED VOTING IN NOVEMBER ELECTIONS BY FAMILY INCOME (2008 TO 2016)

■ Under \$20K

■ Over \$100K



Source: November 2006-2016 Current Population Survey data

83%

of the public agrees that elected officials are not paying enough attention to the cost of housing and the need for more affordable housing.



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Source: Public Opinion Poll Feb 25-Mar 4, 2019 Hart Research Associates

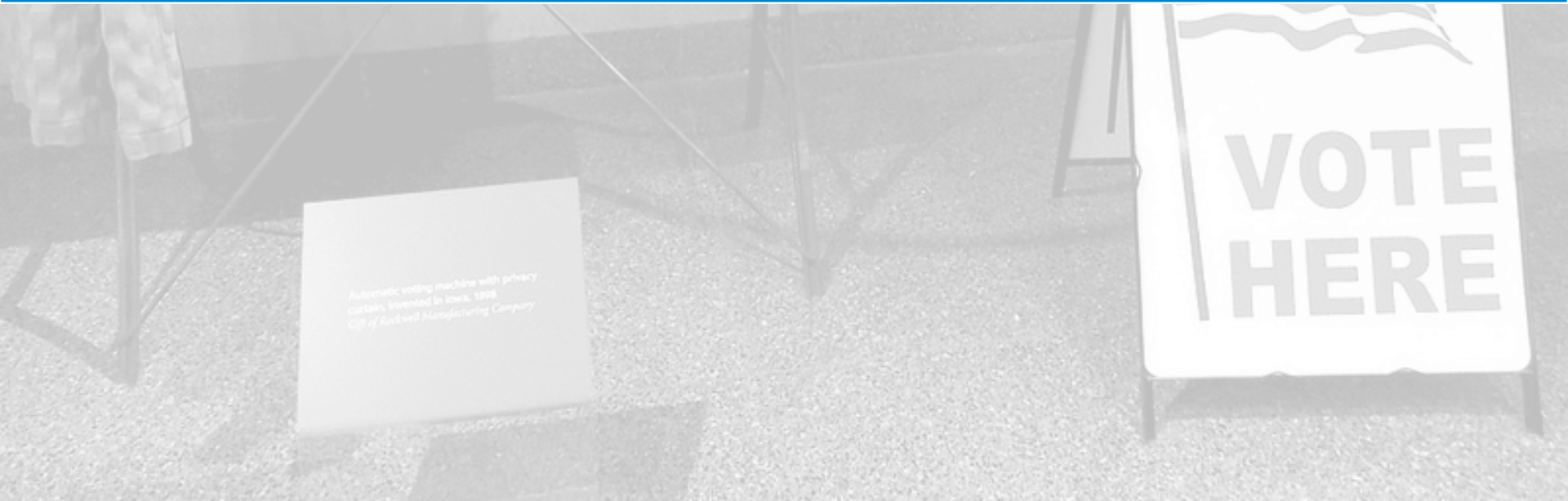
76%

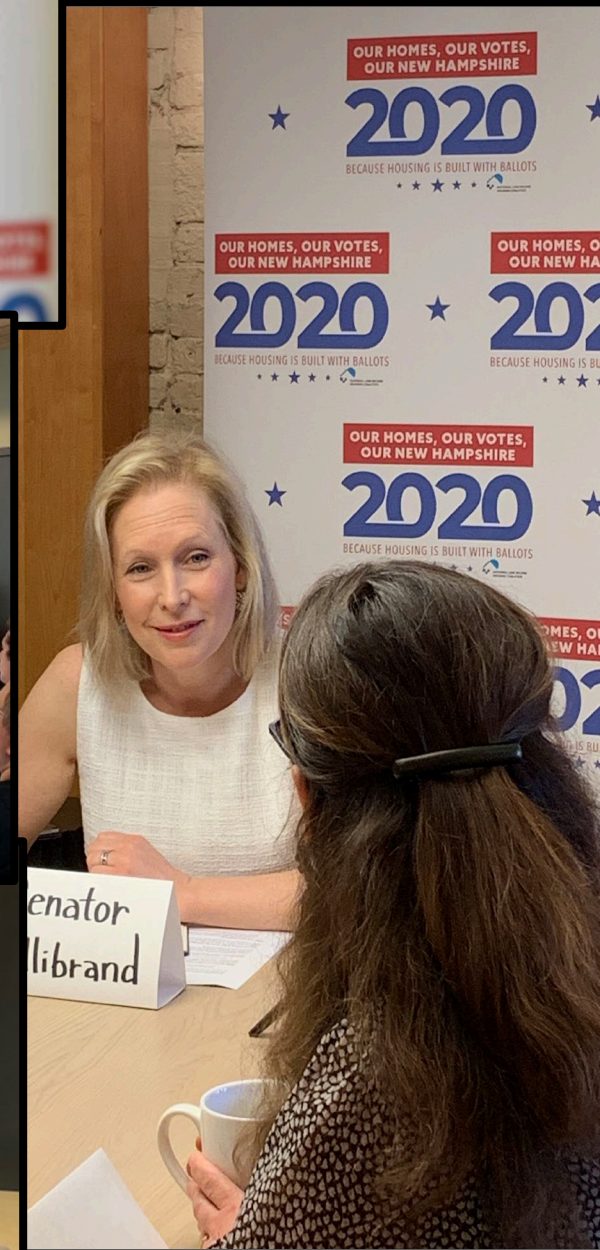
say they are more likely to vote for a candidate that has a detailed plan for making housing more affordable.





Presidential Engagement Update





Democratic Presidential Debates



Last night, moderators asked the question!

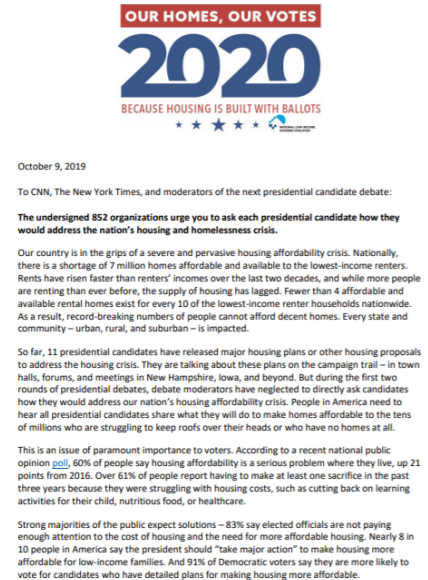
- First time in memory, perhaps in history
- Tom Steyer, Senator Warren, and Senator Booker had opportunities to answer about affordable housing policy
 - Answers covered key issues surrounding rental housing
 - Right to counsel
 - Renters tax credit
 - Gentrification
 - Redlining

Democratic Presidential Debates



THANK YOU!

- 1,001 organizations signed a letter to moderators pushing for them to ask the question



Our Homes, Our Votes Candidate Housing Plans



SOLUTIONS TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS

JUNE 14, 2019



THE NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS CONTINUES TO WORSEN, making it impossible for the lowest-income seniors, people with disabilities, families with children, and low-wage workers to pay rent and make ends meet. Nationally, there is a shortage of 7 million homes affordable and available to the lowest-income people; for every 10 of the lowest-income people, there are fewer than 4 homes affordable and available to them. Every state and community – whether urban, rural, or suburban – is directly impacted.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT ACTION. According to a recent national poll, 85% of people in America believe ensuring everyone has a safe, accessible and affordable home should be a top national priority, and 8 in 10 want major action from Congress and the White House. Seventy-six percent are more likely to vote for a candidate with a detailed plan on making housing more affordable. Across the political spectrum, candidates with a detailed plan to make housing more affordable are more likely to garner support at the ballot box from Democrats (91%), independents (70%) and Republicans (63%).

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

1. Preserve and build deeply affordable homes.

Ending the affordable housing crisis requires a major investment in developing homes affordable to the lowest-income people. The underlying cause of the affordable housing crisis is the severe lack of affordable rental homes for America's lowest-income households – the only segment of the population for which there is an absolute shortage of affordable and available homes. Because the private sector cannot on its own build or maintain homes at a price these families can afford, the federal government must play a leading role.

The national Housing Trust Fund (HTF) was designed precisely to address this need. It is exclusively targeted to help build, preserve, rehabilitate, and operate housing affordable to people with the lowest incomes. The HTF is administered by HUD as a block grant, giving each state the flexibility to decide how to best use HTF resources to address its most pressing housing needs. **The HTF should be expanded significantly to at least \$40 billion annually.**

Restrictive local zoning is a significant barrier to addressing the nation's affordable housing needs. **The federal government should incentivize or require local governments to eliminate restrictive zoning policies** by tying changes to local zoning to federal transportation, infrastructure or housing dollars.

It also do more to preserve our nation's existing affordable housing infrastructure. public housing is home to more than 2.6 million low-income people, Congress has put homes at risk of decay and disrepair through chronic underfunding. Between 2000 and 2016, funding for public housing repairs was cut in half. As a result, many public housing agencies are unable to make needed repairs to preserve these homes, and our country loses 10 to 15,000 public housing apartments annually. **The funding needed to address all repairs in public housing is estimated to exceed \$50 billion.**

Provide rental assistance.

Since 1960, renters' incomes have increased by 5%, while their housing costs have increased by 100%. Despite the growing gap between wages and housing costs, only one in four renters gets the housing assistance it needs because of chronic underfunding. **Candidates should call for a major expansion of Housing Choice Vouchers and/or the creation of a new renters' tax credit** to help families keep more of their incomes for other essentials like food, medicine, education, and transportation.

Prevent families from facing evictions and homelessness.

Our country needs a National Housing Stabilization Fund, a new national program to help prevent evictions and, in worst cases, homelessness. The program could provide temporary financial assistance to help cover rent for households experiencing unexpected economic shocks (e.g., loss of work hours, unreimbursed medical bills, a broken-down car). Coupled with rental assistance services, such as counselors and legal aid, this program would extend an emergency cushion to low-income people in crisis, helping them avert the downward spiral of housing instability and homelessness.

Protect renters from discrimination and abuse.

All 20 presidential candidates should support a broad array of renter protections. Candidates should endorse federal legislation to ban housing discrimination on the basis of race, income, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and pledge to increase enforcement of existing fair housing laws, including state and local obligations to actively further fair housing. Candidates should also consider proposals to support a national right to counsel for renters facing eviction.

For more information, contact NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel at: dyentel@nlihc.org

1000 Vermont Avenue, NW | Suite 500 | Washington, DC 20005 | 202-662-1530 | www.nlihc.org

Candidates with Housing Plans

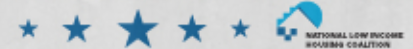
- Bennet
- Booker
- Buttigieg
- Castro
- Delaney
- Gillibrand
- Harris
- Inslee
- Klobuchar
- O'Rourke
- Sanders
- Warren



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Important Partners for Successful Election Engagement

Automatic voting machine with privacy
curtains, invented in Iowa, 1938.
Gift of Rockwell Manufacturing Company

VOTE
HERE

League of Women Voters



- LWV active in 700+ communities in all 50 states
- Founded out of the movement for women's suffrage
- Never endorse or oppose candidates
- Mobilizing 400+ affiliates for National Voter Registration Day 2018
- 2018: Served 5M voters



Nonprofit VOTE



- Excellent resources for 501(c)(3) organizations eager to protect nonprofit status while working on elections
- State-by-State election resources
- Leaders on National Voter Registration Day
- www.nonprofitvote.org



Alliance for Justice



- Bolder Advocacy campaign provides legal guidance for nonprofit organizations on both elections and lobbying efforts
- Technical assistance hotline: 866-NP-LOBBY
- Helpful “Do’s and Don’ts” sheets

Election Protection Coalition



ELECTION PROTECTION



- Key information about voting rights by state
- Advocacy work to protect the right to vote and to expand access to the polls
- Important story bank for people who have been intimidated or suppressed when attempting to vote

NALEO – National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials



- Excellent resource on language justice at the ballot
- Resources and guidance on what voters need to bring with them such as ID requirements

The screenshot shows a web page for voter registration. At the top, there is a blue header bar. On the left side of the bar is a circular logo with the text "VEV VOTA" and a checkmark icon. To the right of the logo, the text "VOTER REGISTRATION" is written in white, all-caps font. Below the header, there is a line of text that reads "Voter registration time takes an average of two minutes or less to complete." To the right of this text is a dropdown menu labeled "Select Language" with a small upward and downward arrow icon. Below the text, there are two input fields. The first is labeled "Email Address*" with a question mark icon to its left. The second is labeled "ZIP Code*" with a question mark icon to its left. To the right of the "ZIP Code*" input field is a red rectangular button with the text "Next Step" in white.

Rock the Vote



- Online voter registration tool that can be built into your website or online apps
- Important tips on messaging to confront voter apathy
 - Especially poignant often with young or new voters
- Training opportunities and templates



Brennan Center for Justice



- Periodic data and research reports on voter registration tactics
 - For example, tips for active tabling or messaging to overcome voter apathy
- Advocacy and information on restoring voting rights for previously incarcerated citizens

B R E N N A N
C E N T E R
F O R J U S T I C E

at New York University School of Law

Fair Elections Center & Fair Elections Legal Network



- State-by-state guides to voter registration drive rules
- Provides litigation and advocacy to protect voters from intimidation, voter caging, and harassment
- Reports on language access at the ballot
- Student voting campaign



- Resources & litigation on voting rights
- Detailed breakdowns of voting for people who have been incarcerated
- Work in some states on protecting the voting rights of homeless people who do not have addresses


ACLU

Arkansas



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[OUR WORK](#)

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[GET HELP](#)

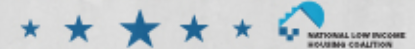
KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: VOTING WHEN HOMELESS



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Helpful Online Resources

Automatic voting machine with privacy
curtain, invented in Iowa, 1938.
Gift of Rockwell Manufacturing Company

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Checking Registration Status



- Best resource is respective Secretary of State's website
 - Many partners provide easy-to-access links to the correct sites

A screenshot of a web form with two columns. The left column is titled "Select state(s)" and contains a list of states: Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, and Louisiana. The right column is titled "Select topic(s)" and contains a list of topics: Overseas and military voters, Poll Worker Information, Polling Place Hours, Polling Place Locator, Provisional Voting, Provisions for Voters with Disabilities, Registration Deadline, Time Off To Vote, and Verify Voter Registration. The "Verify Voter Registration" option is highlighted with a grey background.

▲ Verify Voter Registration

CONNECTICUT

To verify your voter registration status, use your [state's tool](#).



Registering to Vote Online



- Many tools are available
- Most of them guide voters to online registration tools at state or local offices
- Embedding an online registration tool can be a great way to capture data on who in your network you are registering
- Important not just for new registrants, but for those who have recently moved and need to update a registration
- Available in 37 states and District of Columbia

Registering to Vote Online – An Example



REGISTER TO VOTE

Did you know it only takes an average of two minutes to register? Get started now.

Select Language ⇅

? Email Address*

? ZIP Code*

Next Step

GET OTHER PERSONALIZED VOTING INFORMATION

- ✓ See What's On Your Ballot
- ✓ Find Your Polling Place
- ✓ Discover Upcoming Debates And Forums In Your Area
- ✓ and much more!

Get Started

Key Dates and Locations



☐ Registration deadlines

- Both primary and general elections

☐ Election dates

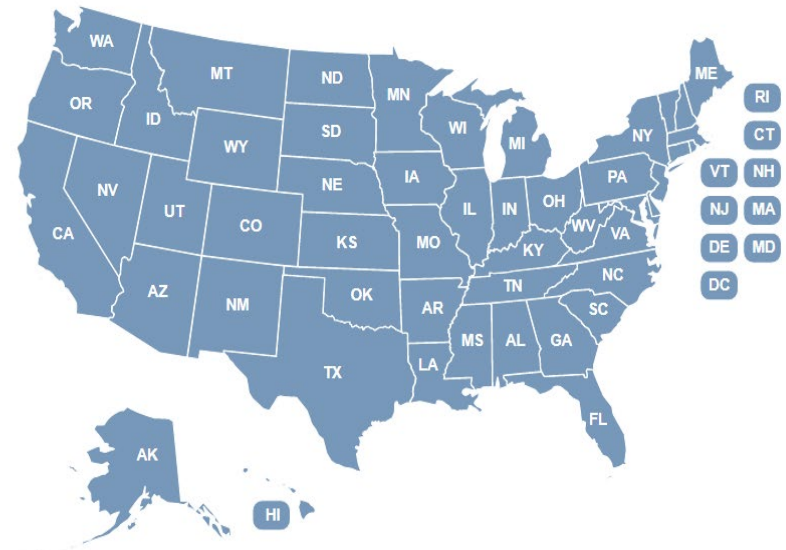
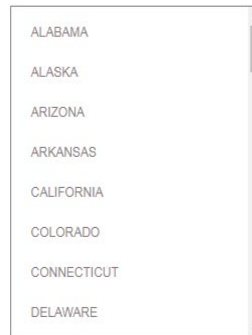
- Including the times polls are open

☐ Early voting dates and locations

☐ Polling location lookups

Voting In Your State

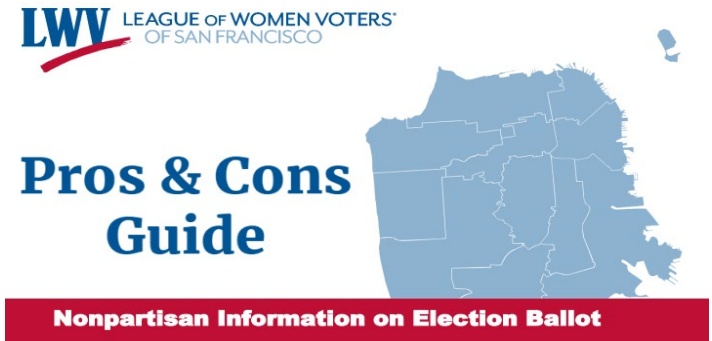
Official voting information directly from your state's elections website



Voter Guides



- Information on candidates
- Ballot initiative questions
- Preparation for what to bring along at the polls



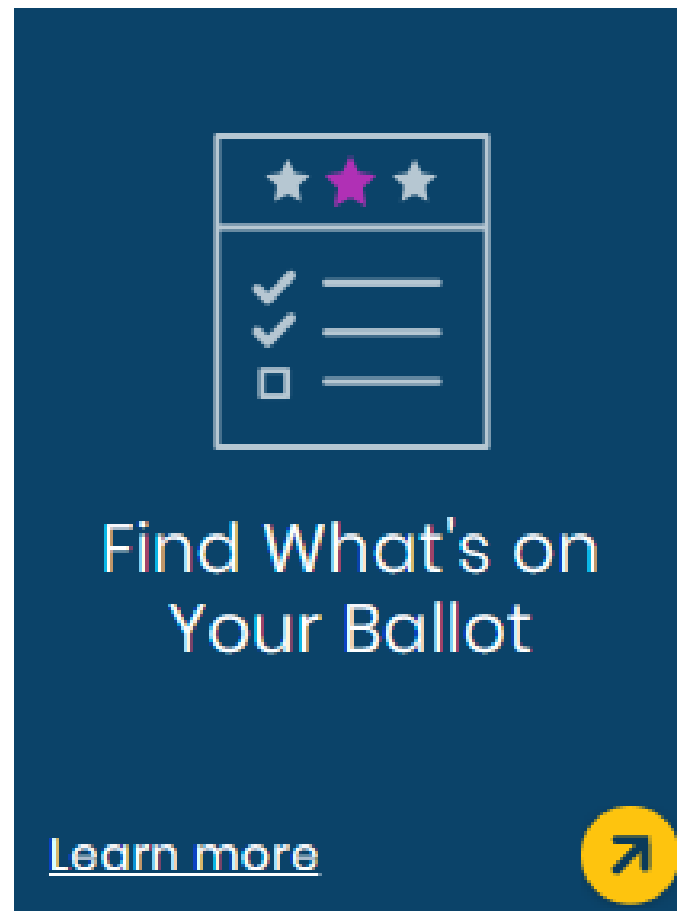
Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day

Sample Ballots



- Prepare voters with information about each decision they have to make in the voting booth.
- VOTE411.org resource searchable by address

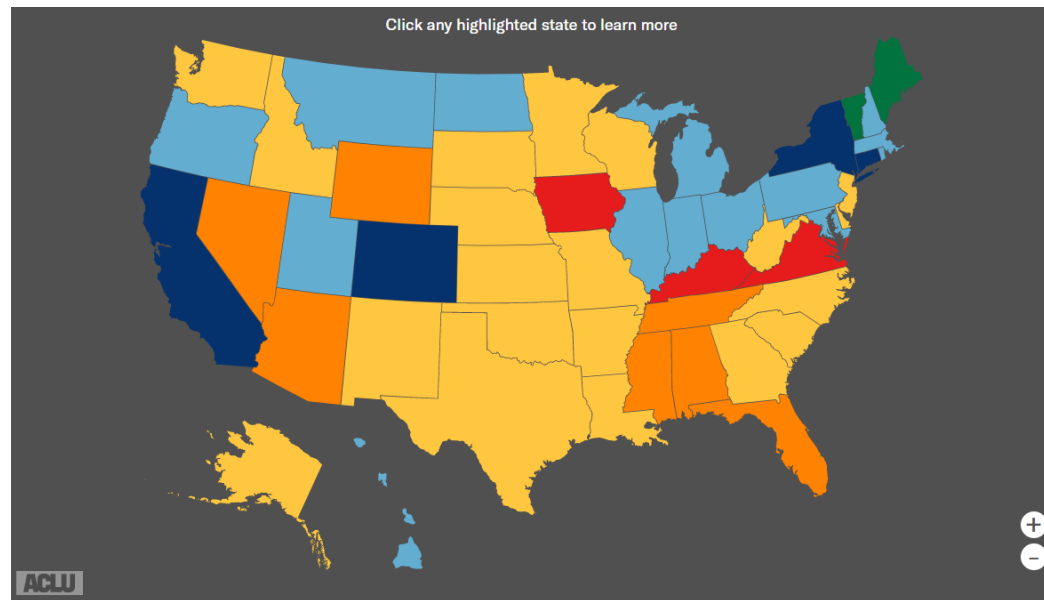


Lookup Resource on Voting Barriers



Different states have different rules

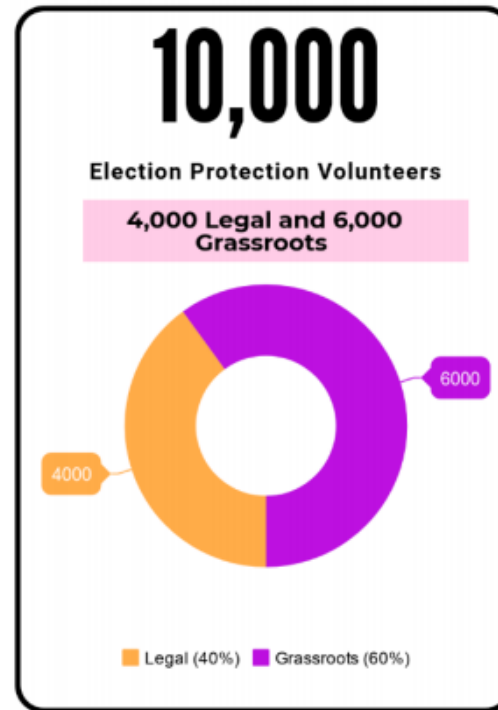
- Voter ID laws
- Rights for previously convicted citizens
- Accommodations for voters with disabilities



Voter Protection Hotlines



- Election Protection Coalition: 866-OUR-VOTE or 888-VE-Y-VOTA
 - Image: Election Protection Report data
- U.S. Department of Justice Voting Rights Hotline: 800-253-3931.

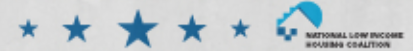




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Getting Involved with Your Local League of Women Voters

Automatic voting machine with privacy
curtain, invented in Iowa, 1938
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VOTE
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Partnering with your local League



- Ask your local LWV or other group to set up a registration drive
- Attend a voter reg/education training
- Put out LWV's voter information materials (paper or online)
- Incorporate registration & voting info into your social media & public events
- Join as a partner



LWVUS Resources



- www.VOTE411.org:

- Candidate info for thousands of races
- Polling place locator
- State by state voting guidelines
- Voter Registration tool for all 50 states

- www.lwv.org:

- Find your local League
- Read our blog for tips and ideas

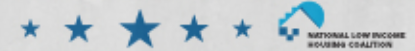




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Questions?

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VOTE
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The background image is a grayscale photograph of a museum exhibit. On the left, there is a large, dark, rectangular machine with a grid of small, light-colored buttons or slots. To the right of this machine is a white sign on a black frame that reads "VOTE HERE" in large, bold, black letters. Below the machine, there is a small, white, rectangular plaque with text. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue banner containing the title text.

Third Thursdays at Three Webinar and Podcast Series

Automatic voting machine with privacy
curtain, invented in Iowa, 1898.
Gift of Rockwell Manufacturing Company

Upcoming Training and Discussion Topics



1. Voter Registration Part 1 – Messaging, events, and canvassing (December 19)
2. Voter Registration Part 2 – Registering residents of subsidized housing (January 16, 2020)
3. The role of housing providers (February 20, 2020)
4. Getting candidates on the record – issue surveys, town halls, and forums (March 19, 2020)
5. Educating voters – voting logistics and candidate positions (April 16, 2020)
6. Housing issues and ballot initiatives (May 21, 2020)
7. Overcoming common obstacles to voting (June 18, 2020)
8. The challenge of voting while homeless (July 16, 2020)
9. Voter Mobilization Part 1 – Early voting and vote-by-mail (August 20, 2020)
10. Voter Mobilization Part 2 – Protecting against voter intimidation (September 17, 2020)
11. Election Day! Getting Out The Vote (October 15, 2020)
12. Holding candidates to their promises (November 19, 2020)

Other webinar recordings available at www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/webinars

It's never been easy.

Our commitment is unwavering.

**Join us and amplify the voices of
the poorest families in need.**

**OUR MEMBERS
ARE OUR STRENGTH.**



NATIONAL LOW INCOME
HOUSING COALITION

JOIN TODAY
WWW.NLIHC.ORG/MEMBERSHIP



Stay in Touch



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