

Election Integrity Reforms Report Update

August 12, 2022

Written By:

Matt Braynard, Executive Director

Ian Camacho, Research Director

The LAA Research Group

**LOOK
AHEAD
AMERICA**
THE VOTER INTEGRITY PROJECT

Table of Contents

Summary.....	1
Disclaimer	2
Election Integrity Objectives Review.....	2
1. Thumbprint Authentication of Absentee Ballots.	2
2. Mandated and Public Voter List Hygiene.....	3
3. Ban on the Use of “Black Box” Voting Equipment.....	3
4. Appointment of a Citizens Elections Supervisory Committee.....	4
5. Creation and Sufficient Funding for a Dedicated Voter Fraud Investigation Division within the State’s Attorney General’s Office.....	4
6. Equitable Distribution of Private Contributions to Election Operations.	4
Progress of States with Election Integrity Objectives (as of 12 Aug. 2022).....	5
Synopsis of all Passed, Pending, and Dead Bills Related to Objectives.....	5
About Look Ahead America	11
Acknowledgements.....	11
How to Support Look Ahead America	11

Summary

These objectives were formulated based on the findings of the Voter Integrity Project in the aftermath of the 2020 General Election, LAA’s team with decades experience administering elections, and hundreds of ideas suggested by the public. Look Ahead America believes our elections can best be secured by passing our six election integrity policy objectives through all fifty US state legislatures and in the District of Columbia.

Across the country, between 2021-2022, state legislators introduced 61 bills that addressed our six election integrity objectives. Of these, 13 bills passed into law without loopholes (4.33% of our goal) and another two passed although on a county level. 14 other state bills passed, albeit with loopholes. Considering that LAA started this effort in 2021 and given our limited budget, this success is largely attributed to our base of highly-motivated volunteers all across the USA and our generous small donors who enable us to continue.

We also should note that 2 of these bills came directly from LAA. Although the first bill in New Jersey S4162 would have banned black box voting equipment, it failed to pass. Fortunately, South Carolina passed SB 108 which addresses election integrity points 2 and 6. Although these have loopholes, it is better to have a law in place with one that can be closed as opposed to nothing in place at all as it shrinks the previous election vulnerability. It should also be noted that our state volunteer coordinators who brought these to their legislators and got bills

introduced – Denise Bolognese of NJ and Lori Boddy of SC – undertook an enormous task and should be commended for their work. We also wish to add that even if a bill does not pass, it is now in the public sphere and consciousness, allowing it to return in the future with greater potentiality of becoming law and serve as potential reference legislation for other states.

Arizona still leads the pack with three bills that meet our election integrity objectives passed into law, with Florida close behind at two bills. Look Ahead Arizona led the effort to get these reforms introduced and passed; HB 2492, used our election integrity objective #2 language verbatim for example. If any other states incorporated a Look Ahead America division within them just as Arizona did, then we would be able to help them successfully pass a significantly larger number of election integrity laws.

Disclaimer

We did our best to review all these bills for accuracy, and scoured multiple sources to verify dates of passage, status, and to ensure that we missed nothing. Nevertheless, it is possible that we missed something. If you know of any state level bills not listed but relevant to one of our six election integrity objectives, then please notify Ian Camacho, Director of Research, with the state, bill number, and corresponding objective at ian.camacho@lookaheadamerica.org.

Election Integrity Objectives Review

Each of these policy objectives satisfies three key requirements: (1) eliminating vulnerabilities in our election system, (2) practicality of implementation, and (3) harmony with current state and federal laws and established legal precedence. Read at <https://lookaheadamerica.org/integrity>.

1. Thumbprint Authentication of Absentee Ballots.

A single machine-readable thumbprint on the affidavit envelope of an absentee ballot will limit the ability of an individual other than the voter of record to cast that ballot. Multiple ballots cast by a single individual will be easily detectable.

Pairing a thumbprint requirement with an absentee ballot request or as part of the voter registration process would practically eliminate fraudulent absentee ballots as well as problems with ballot signature verification, witness signatures, and unscrupulous ballot harvesting.

The state would encrypt the captured thumbprints as alphanumeric values with a one-way hash using a secure key and would be prohibited from sharing raw thumbprint data with any other government agency.

2. Mandated and Public Voter List Hygiene.

The state will be required to engage in several processes to ensure only those legally eligible to cast ballots are on voter registration lists and lists remain current.

Further, whether or not these processes result in a voter record's removal, the findings of these processes will be reflected in the publicly available voter list (not applicable to Social Security numbers). This will allow citizens or organizations to use this information to take additional steps to ensure only legal ballots are cast.

These processes will include, but are not limited to:

Shared Interstate Residency Databases. The state will cooperate with other states to build a secure, transactional database to detect when an individual has registered in another state or taken other steps that would indicate a loss of residency and therefore voter privileges. This database will rely on a match of name, date of birth and the last four digits of the Social Security number. Any records matched through this process must be publicly flagged in the state's voter database.

Non-Citizen Matching Using the USCIS's SAVE Database. The state will take advantage of the USCIS's SAVE database to flag non-citizens and remove them from the voter list. Any records matched through this process must be publicly flagged in the state's voter database.

National Change of Address, Social Security Death Index, and Master Death File Matching. The state will match the voter list against the NCOA permanent moves, SSDI, and MDF on a monthly basis. Any matches will require a follow-up to ensure whether the voter is still eligible to cast a ballot and, if not, they will be removed from the voter list. Any records matched through this process must be publicly flagged in the state's voter database.

3. Ban on the Use of "Black Box" Voting Equipment.

"Black Box" voting equipment uses proprietary, non-public software and hardware designs. According to a study by Princeton University, this equipment is highly susceptible to undetected hacking and manipulation.

The alternative is to mandate that all election equipment use open-source software and design that is available for inspection and review by the public and technology organizations to ensure the validity and accuracy of vote counting.

Open-source election software and hardware, paired with paper ballots, will remove the potential for tampering as well as the suspicion of tampering.

More information can be found at <https://lookaheadamerica.org/blackbox/>.

4. Appointment of a Citizens Elections Supervisory Committee.

The public must have mechanisms through which they are assured elections are conducted in accordance with the law to facilitate trust in election officials and to confirm the integrity of election officials.

The committee shall consist of trusted citizens who represent various political parties as well as non-partisan organizations. Each committee member will be granted access to the election process equivalent to the state's election director and any county election director. These representatives will have the responsibility of documenting the lawful execution of the election at every level.

5. Creation and Sufficient Funding for a Dedicated Voter Fraud Investigation Division within the State's Attorney General's Office.

Many states have little to no standing effort to investigate voter fraud. Dedicating sufficient staffing and funding to a permanent division within the state's attorney general's office will help defend the integrity of our elections.

6. Equitable Distribution of Private Contributions to Election Operations.

While private individuals and corporations may choose to sponsor improvements to election operations with direct donations of funding or material to government election agencies, these contributions may not be geographically targeted and must be equitably distributed throughout a state based on voter populations.

This restriction will only be applicable to liquid contributions to allow incidental contributions to continue, such as a club allowing its headquarters to be used as a polling place.

Progress of States with Election Integrity Objectives (as of 12 Aug. 2022)

Status	States
3 Objectives Passed (#2, #5, #6)	AZ
2 Objectives Passed (#5, #6)	FL
1 Objective Passed (#5)	GA
1 Objective Passed (#6) [* = county only]	ID, IA, MI*, MS, OK, PA, SD, TN, WI*
Objective(s) Progressing, No Loopholes	WI
Law(s) Passed With Loopholes	AL, AR, GA, IN, KS, KY, MO, NE, ND, OH, SC, TX, UT, VA, WV
Objective(s) Progressing With Loopholes	IL
Objective(s) Attempted But Failed	AL, AK, GA, IA, LA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, NH, NJ, PA, TX, WV, WI, WY
No Attempts Made	CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, ME, MD, MA, NV, NM, NY, OR, RI, VT, WA

Synopsis of all Passed, Pending, and Dead Bills Related to Objectives

Item	State	Bill/Description	Status	What's missing
#1	Texas	HB 3080	Failed 4/27/21	Nothing missing
#1	Pennsylvania	HB 30	Referred to state government 6/3/21, died	Nothing missing
#2	Arizona	HB 2492	Law 3/30/22	Nothing missing
#2	South Carolina	SB 108	Law 5/13/22	No NCOA, SAVE, SSDI, MDF database. Allows interstate data sharing).
#3	Alabama	SB 47: Requires hand marked paper ballots	Senate passed 2/2/22, died in House 2/16/22	Does not apply to tabulators
#3	Illinois	SB 2038: Hand marked paper ballots only	Introduced 2/26/2021, redirected to new committee 2/10/22	Scanned ballots OK

#3	Missouri	HB 2633: Bans machines from counting or casting ballots	Introduced 2/1/22, died in committee 3/23/22	Nothing missing
#3	New Hampshire	HB 1064: Hand marked paper ballots and hand counted. Bans machines in elections	Introduced 11/2/21, died in committee 3/23/22	Nothing missing
#3	New Jersey	S4162	Failed	Nothing missing
#5	Arizona	https://www.azag.gov/criminal/eiu	Founded 2019	Nothing missing
#5	Florida	SB 524: Establishes the Office of Election Crimes and Security in the Department of State	Law 4/25/22	Nothing missing
#5	Georgia	SB 441: Provides the Georgia Bureau of Investigation with original jurisdiction to investigate election fraud and crimes and subpoena power to further such investigations	Law 4/28/22	Though not directly under AG, it fits the integrity item.
#6	Alabama	HB 74: Prohibits solicitation, receipt, or use of private funds to administer an election	Introduced 1/11/22, died in committee	Nothing missing
#6	Alabama	HB 194	Law 4/7/22	Does not cover contractors or governments.
#6	Alaska	HB 368	Introduced 2/22/22, died in committee	Nothing missing
#6	Arizona	HB 2569: Bans any state or public body that conducts or administers elections from receiving or giving private funds for election-related purposes, including registering voters	Law 4/9/21	Nothing missing
#6	Arkansas	H 1866 (Act 961): Prohibits election officials from accepting any non-governmental funds	Law 4/27/21	Only for county and state board of elections.
#6	Florida	SB 90: Prohibits state and local officials and certain agencies from accepting or using private funds for election-related expenses	Law 5/6/21	Nothing missing
#6	Florida	SB 524	Law 4/25/22	Nothing missing
#6	Georgia	SB 202: Prohibits election superintendents, boards of registrars from accepting private funds	Law 3/25/21	Other positions can accept private funds.

#6	Georgia	HB 1402	Introduced 2/17/22, died in committee 2/24/22	Nothing missing
#6	Idaho	SB 1168	Law 4/26/21	Nothing missing
#6	Indiana	SB 134: Regulates funding of elections	Law 3/11/22	SOS may use private funds for elections via political subdivisions
#6	Iowa	SSB 3143 (replaced by HF 2526 & SF 2343)	Introduced 2/14/22, Committee approved to roll over 2/17/22. Both died 4/7/22	Nothing missing
#6	Iowa	HSB 719 (renumbered HF 2526)	Introduced 2/15/22, Committee approved to roll over 2/23/22. Both died 4/7/22	Nothing missing
#6	Iowa	HF 2526	Introduced 2/23/22, died in chamber 4/7/22	Nothing missing
#6	Iowa	SF 2343	Introduced 2/17/22, died in chamber 4/7/22	Nothing missing
#6	Iowa	HF 2589	Law 6/21/22	Nothing missing
#6	Kansas	HB 2183: Prohibits receipt and expenditure of private moneys by election officials	Gov. Laura Kelly (D) veto; overridden; Law 7/1/21	State and counties can receive private funds.
#6	Kentucky	HB 153: Prohibits state governmental body employees from accepting anything of value to assist with election administration	Introduced 12/10/21, died in committee 1/4/22	Lawful contracts for goods and services allows private money.

#6	Kentucky	HB 301: Requires all election administration costs and expenses paid for by public funds	Law 3/24/22; Gov. Andy Beshear (D) did not sign	Lawful contracts for goods and services allows private money.
#6	Louisiana	HB 20: Prohibits any state or local official overseeing elections from accepting private donations	Gov. Bel Edwards (D) vetoed 6/7/21, Floor debate scheduled 6/9/21 never happened	Nothing missing
#6	Louisiana	HB 811: Stops elections offices from accepting private funding for elections.	Passed state house 5/18/22. Died in Senate 6/6/22	Nothing missing
#6	Michigan	SB 0303: Requires elections to be funded with public money	Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (D) vetoed 10/29/21	Nothing missing
#6	Michigan	Livingston County first county in state to ban private monies for administering elections.	Passed board of elections on June 13, 2022	Only 1 county in state.
#6	Minnesota	SF 3333: Bans counties, municipalities, and school districts "from accepting certain contributions for election expenses"	Introduced 2/21/22, died in committee 2/24/22	Nothing missing
#6	Mississippi	HB 1365: Prohibits state and local election officials from soliciting and accepting private funds for elections	Law 4/1/22, Effective 7/1/22	Nothing missing
#6	Missouri	HB 1878: Bans drop boxes, ballot harvesting and private funds	Law 5/18/22	Not enforced if there is an insufficient appropriation of state funds that disproportionately compensates counties.
#6	Missouri	SB 333: Bans private organizations from contributing funds or in-kind donations to state and local elections offices.	Died in Committee 5/13/21	Language somewhat vague

#6	Montana	SB 335: Bars elections officials from accepting private election funds.	Died in Committee 4/29/21	Nothing missing
#6	Nebraska	LB 843: The Secretary of State, election commissioners, and county clerks shall not accept or use any gift, grant, or donation from any private entity for the purpose of preparing for, administering, or conducting an election unless the money received as a result of such gift, grant, or donation is appropriated to the Secretary of State for such use by the Legislature.	Law 4/19/22	Allows for private funds if the legislature approves and appropriated to the SOS.
#6	North Carolina	S 725: Bans state and county boards of elections, and county commissioners from accepting private funding	Vetoed by Gov. Roy Cooper (D) 12/09/21	Only county or state boards of elections or commissioners
#6	North Dakota	HB 1256: Prohibits state and local officials for accepting or spending private contributions for elections	Law 4/16/21	Companies can still donate
#6	Ohio	HB 110: Bars private funding of elections	Law 7/1/21	Contractors & governments ok
#6	Oklahoma	HB 3046: Requires elections be paid for with public funds	Law 5/4/22	Nothing missing
#6	Pennsylvania	HB 1300: Secretary of the Commonwealth must equally distribute private funds across counties with the Election Law Advisory Board's oversight	Vetoed by Gov. Tom Wolf (D) 6/31/21	Nothing missing
#6	Pennsylvania	SB 982	Law 7/11/22	Nothing missing
#6	South Carolina	H 3877: Prohibits state and election officials from accepting private donations for elections.	Introduced 2/11/21, died in committee 6/21/21	Only state election commission and county boards of voter registration and elections.
#6	South Carolina	SB 108	Law 5/13/22	State election commission, county boards of voter registration / elections only.

#6	South Dakota	SB 122: Bars private funding of elections except gifts of nominal and intrinsic value.	Law 3/28/22	Nothing missing
#6	Tennessee	HB 966	Law 5/4/21	Nothing missing
#6	Tennessee	SB 1534	Law 5/4/21	Nothing missing
#6	Texas	SB 7	Law 5/30/21	SOS may approve private donations of over \$1,000
#6	Texas	SB 2283: County officials can't accept donations over \$1,000, unless SOS, Gov., Lt. Gov., and speaker of the House approve.	Law 6/18/21	Officials may approve private donations of over \$1,000 unrelated to election spaces
#6	Utah	SB 219: An election officer may not solicit, accept, or use any funds for an election if donated by any person other than a government entity.	Law 3/23/22	Covers only elections officers
#6	Virginia	SB 80	Law 4/11/22	Only covers certain boards
#6	West Virginia	HB 4097: Prohibits nonpublic funding sources for election administration and related expenses without prior written approval by the State Election Commission.	Law 3/30/22	Private funds can go into treasury with approval.
#6	West Virginia	SB 565	Senate passed 3/24/21 but died in committee	State Election Commission prior written approval allows private funds
#6	Wisconsin	AB 173: Prohibits election officials from accepting private funds without permission from state Elections Commission. If permission given, then donation must be distributed to municipalities per capita. The Joint Committee on Finance must oversee any dispersions of money	Vetoed by Gov. Tony Evers (D) 6/30/21. Died in Rules Committee 11/15/21. Senate Joint Resolution 101 passed proposed constitutional amendment 2/22/22. Voters must approve.	Nothing missing

#6	Wisconsin	SB 935	Vetoed by Gov. Tony Evers (D) 4/8/22	Nothing missing
#6	Wisconsin	Ozaukee County resolution to ban private monies.	Resolution passed 7/6/22	Only a resolution, not binding.
#6	Wisconsin	Walworth County first to ban private monies for administering elections.	Passed local board of supervisors on April 21, 2022	Only 1 county in state.
#6	Wyoming	SF 0142: Prohibits elections officials from accepting private funding for elections.	Died in committee 4/1/21	Nothing missing

About Look Ahead America

Look Ahead America is an America First nonprofit dedicated to standing up for patriotic Americans who have been forgotten by our government. We aren't just talk; we're action. That action means deploying our R.E.T. (Register, Educate, Turnout to Vote) field programs across the country. It means leading Patriot Actions and training citizens to lobby their state and local governments for America First causes. Finally, it means ensuring voter integrity by investigating cases of illegal ballots and advocating for election reform to prevent them from being cast.

Acknowledgements

Craig Stewart, State Volunteer Coordinator of Virginia, created the visual representation graph of bills nation-wide that fulfill Look Ahead America's election integrity criteria and their current status. Terri Gierer, Missy and @CherylT provided excellent bill research and proofreading help.

How to Support Look Ahead America

If you can volunteer 10-15 hours a week in your state and are willing to speak with your state representatives to pass bills into law, then we could use your assistance. Please sign up using the following link: <https://www.lookaheadamerica.org/lead>.

You may also volunteer with LAA at <https://www.lookaheadamerica.org/volunteer>.

Or you may make a tax-deductible contribution at <https://www.lookaheadamerica.org/donate>.

You can also join our Discord community server at <https://discord.gg/lookaheadamerica>.