

VOTER INTEGRITY LEGISLATION TRACKING REPORT

Updated May 6, 2021

Written By:

Matt Braynard, Executive Director
Ian Camacho, Research Director
The LAA Research Group



THE VOTER INTEGRITY PROJECT

OVERVIEW

We documented a total of 1,143 bills related to election reforms across all fifty states. Both Democrats and Republicans introduced these bills in their state houses and state senates. We had initially used the Brennan Center’s state voting bills tracker as our guide, although we improved upon their findings by including the bills’ sponsors, the sponsors’ political parties, status of the bill (including as of date), and the link to the actual bill.

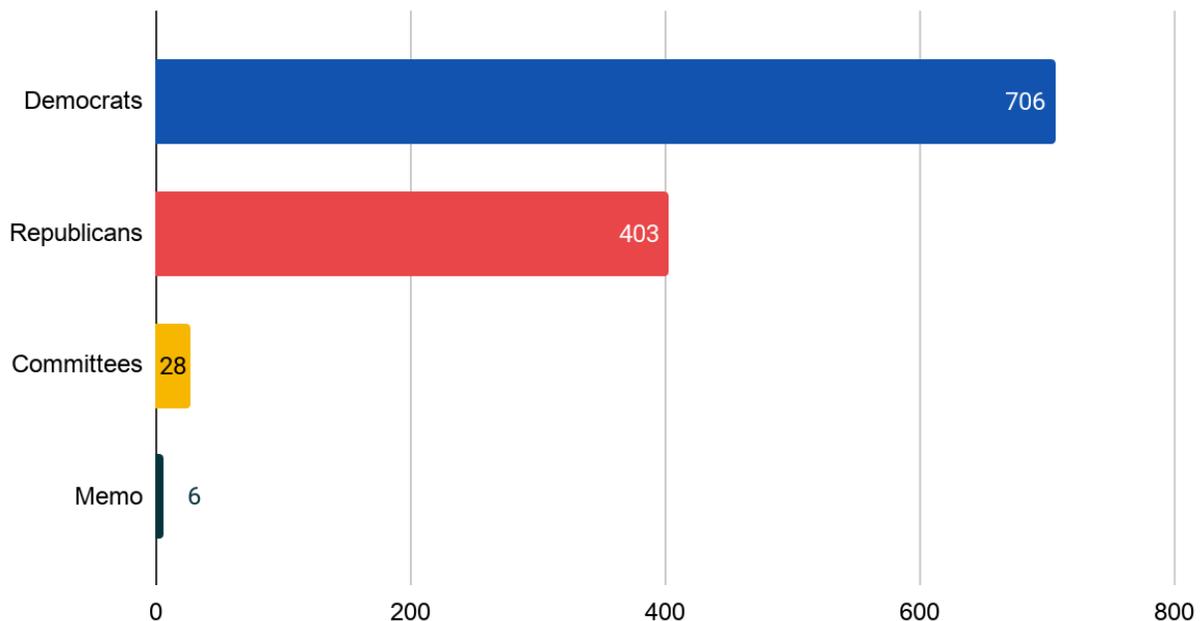
OUR TEAM

The Legislation Tracker Project team is a part of Look Ahead America’s Research Group and consisted of eight researchers, a Team Lead, and the Research Director overseeing the project.

ANALYSIS

Based on the data analyzed, our Research Group uncovered that Democrats have introduced 706 election-related legislation items. This comes out to their having introduced almost exactly 75% more election related items than Republicans, who have introduced only 403 pieces of legislation thus far. Bipartisan committees have introduced 28 bills and 6 memos, which totals 1,143 items related to elections that we found thus far.

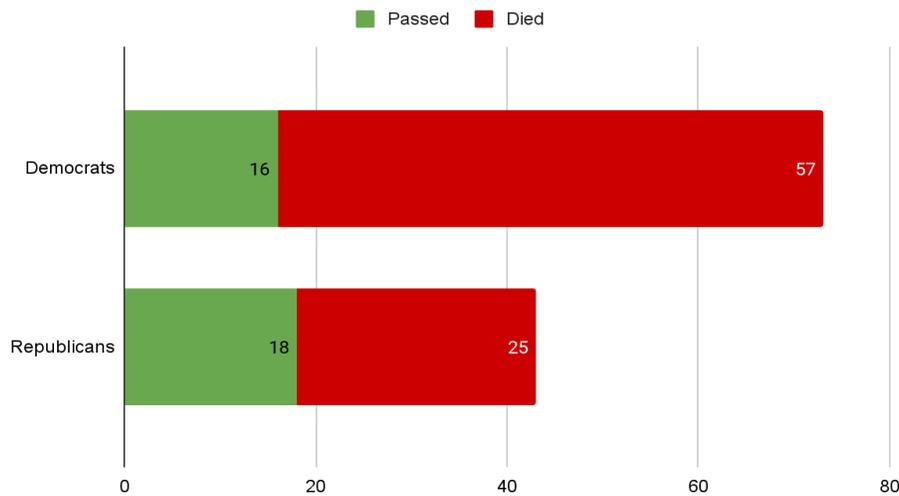
Bills & Memos



Both parties have passed nearly the same amount of bills: Democrats have signed 16 bills into laws whereas Republicans have passed 18 bills. Thus, only 34 bills of the 1,143 items have passed, or just under three percent of all election-related legislation introduced.

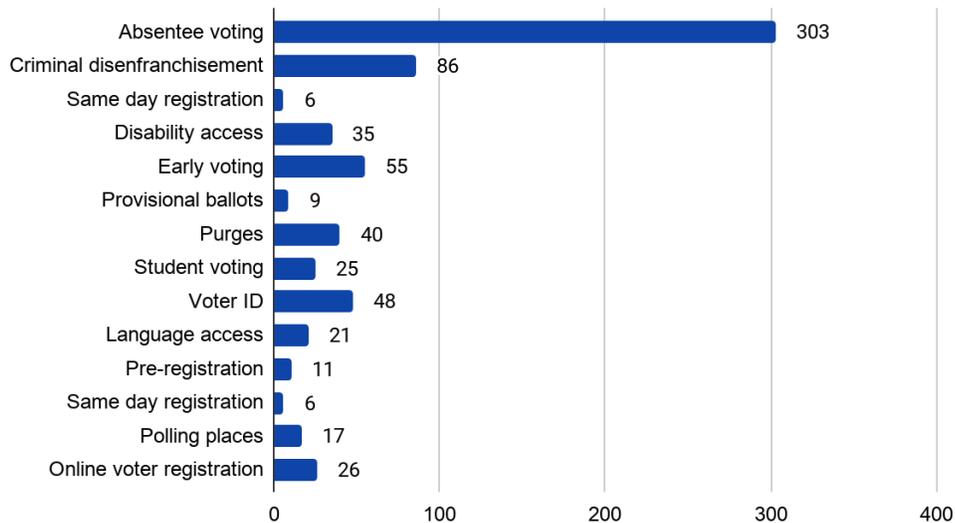
When looking at the failure rate, we find that Democrat-sponsored bills have more than double the failure rate of Republicans' bills. Democrats have failed to pass 57 bills, whereas Republicans have failed to pass 25. These dead bills account for a little over seven percent of all bills introduced thus far.

These finds reveal a 0.219 average for the Democratic party across all 50 states, as opposed to a 0.419 average for the Republican party thus far.



Our team also reviewed the number of bills introduced by topic. As evident in the following breakdown, the 303 absentee voting bills accounted for more than one in every four election-related bills overall, or more than the next six top-ranked topics combined (e.g. criminal disenfranchisement with 86 bills, early voting with 55 bills, voter ID with 48 bills, purges with 40 bills, disability access with 35 bills, and online voter registration with 26 bills).

Bills introduced by topic



H.R. 1 DISCOVERY

During this analysis, we also discovered that Democrats in Texas have introduced pieces of H.R.1 into their bills. We will need further analysis to determine how much of H.R.1 made it into these bills. We must also further determine whether these introductions occurred only in Texas, or if other states have similar situations as well.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDED REFORMS

Though many more bills will appear before the state houses and state senates, thus far the Republicans have had double the success rate of Democrats, although both parties have passed roughly the same amount of bills. Absentee voting appears to have emerged as the primary focus given the contested outcome of the 2020 General Election.

With just over ten percent of all bills having reached some form of completion, we recognize an urgent need to review the other ninety percent of bills still pending before congress. We will measure the effectiveness of this legislation by determining how well these bills implement the reforms as recommended by Look Ahead America, found at <https://www.lookaheadamerica.org/integrity>.

By doing so, we intend to educate the public on the legislation underway in their states so they can make voices heard on these critical reforms.

GETTING INVOLVED

Those who desire to help us with future legislative research may apply to volunteer at <https://lookaheadamerica.org/volunteer>. Those who are interested in financially contributing to support these efforts can donate at <https://lookaheadamerica.org/donate/>.