



# Americans Support Commonsense Election Laws

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*Commonsense election safeguards enjoy widespread support from the American people, who want our laws to make it easy to vote but hard to cheat.*

## Americans Want Safe and Fair Elections

- The vast majority of Americans support commonsense safeguards to protect our elections.
- 64% of Americans want to strengthen election safeguards while only 21% prefer to roll back safeguards to make it “easier” to vote, according to a recent [poll](#).
  - Support for election safeguards spans across all ideologies and demographics, including 51% of African American voters and 66% of Hispanic voters.
- While some have been quick to demonize voter ID laws, the American people see voter ID requirements as easy, commonsense rules that protect their vote.
  - Over three-quarters (77%) of Americans support photo ID requirements according to a [poll](#) commissioned by Honest Elections Project Action (HEP Action).
  - A poll by [Rasmussen](#) found that 75% of likely voters say ID laws are necessary to a “fair and secure election process,” including 65% of Democrats and 70% of Moderates.
  - 85% of Americans say voter ID requirements are “common sense,” according to a FreedomWorks/Scott Rasmussen [poll](#).
  - 72% of the public say photo ID requirements increase their confidence in our elections according to the FreedomWorks/Scott Rasmussen [poll](#).
- Despite the partisan rhetoric, safeguards like voter ID do not have a negative impact on minority voter turnout and actually enjoy widespread support from minority voters.
  - 64% of Black, 77% of Hispanic, and 76% of low-income voters [say](#) it isn’t a “burden.”
  - Voter ID requirements enjoy strong [support](#) from young voters, seniors, African Americans, and Hispanics.
  - Studies [show](#) that voter ID requirements do not actually negatively impact minority voter turnout in elections.
  - Pew labeled the [2018](#) electorate “the most racially and ethnically diverse ever” while [2020](#) turnout soared to levels not seen in over a century—with voter ID laws in 36 states.
- Safeguards around mail-in voting are not only important for our elections, but also enjoy widespread support from the American people.
  - [74%](#) of Americans support requiring all mailed ballots be received by election day.
  - [66%](#) of Americans support applying voter ID requirements to absentee ballots.
  - [62%](#) of Americans think vote trafficking, or ballot harvesting, should be illegal. Only 11% support the tactic.
- When you cut through the noise and look at the facts, the evidence shows that the recent efforts to strengthen election security are clearly in the mainstream.

## Separating Fact from Fiction on State Election Laws

- While there has been a lot of partisan attacks and heightened rhetoric around the new law in Georgia and proposed laws in other states, it is important to separate fact from fiction.
- The truth is that Georgia’s election law is reasonable, mainstream, and contains many similarities to laws in blue states that have been controlled by Democrats for years.
- Despite inaccurate claims about voting access, Georgia is actually offering nearly double the early voting days offered in states like New York and New Jersey.



- While progressive activists have attacked Georgia’s voter ID and early voting rules, President Joe Biden’s home state of Delaware also requires ID and hasn’t offered early voting yet.
- States like New York and Delaware require voters to provide an excuse to be allowed to vote absentee, while Georgia offers no-excuse absentee voting.

	<b>GA</b> <i>(under new law)</i>	<b>NY</b>	<b>NJ</b> <i>(under new law)</i>	<b>DE</b>
<b>Early Voting</b>	At least 17 days (19 days if the registrar opts for Sunday voting)	9 days	9 days for a general election	No early voting until 2022, and then at least 10 days
<b>Weekend Voting</b>	2 mandatory Saturdays and 2 optional Sundays	2 weekends of early voting	2 weekends of early voting for a general election	No weekend voting until 2022
<b>Absentee Voting</b>	No-excuse absentee voting	Requires excuse	No-excuse absentee voting	Requires excuse
<b>Voter ID</b>	ID required	No ID required	No ID required	ID required
<b>Food &amp; Water at Polling Places</b>	Bans passing out food and water within 150 ft of polling places but allows unattended water stations	Bans passing out food and water unless it is under \$1 and does not identify the provider	Prohibits distribution of campaign literature, except food or water within 100 feet of a polling place	Prohibits distribution of campaign literature, except food and water, within 50 feet of a polling place
<b>Ballot Drop Boxes</b>	Allows drop boxes	Does not currently allow drop boxes, but legislation has been passed by state senate	Allows drop boxes	Allows drop boxes, but they were only available in 2020 at county election offices

### [Sorting Through the Myths and Misinformation](#)

- Dire rhetoric and false cries of Jim Crow 2.0 do not serve the public interest. Unfortunately, misleading narratives and politicized double standards are the norm in the election debate.
  - [The Washington Post](#) gave President Joe Biden four Pinnochios for repeatedly claiming, falsely, that Georgia’s new law closes polls early to stop working people from voting.
  - Sen. Raphael Warnock [signed](#) a letter falsely claiming that Georgia ended no-excuse absentee voting, fully five days after the law was passed.
  - Stacey Abrams [demonized](#) Georgia’s Republican-led reforms “Jim Crow in a suit and tie,” but [praised](#) New Jersey Democrats for a law offering 8 fewer days of early voting.
- Boycotting states over popular voting reforms is unpopular. A [Rasmussen](#) polls finds a majority of voters oppose the Georgia boycott.
- Following the 2016 election, politicians and activists spread distrust in the results.
  - Hillary Clinton [claimed](#) her opponent Donald Trump was an “illegitimate” president and had stolen the election.
  - Nancy Pelosi [stated](#) in 2017 that the election had been “hijacked.”
  - Dozens of Democrats [refused](#) to attend the inauguration in 2017.
- Liberals lauded then-gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams in 2018 for refusing to concede and challenging the results of the election.
  - Abrams [stated](#) in 2019, a year after the election, that “concession in the political space is an acknowledgment that the process was fair and I don't believe that to be so.”