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Friday Voter ID Update

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March 11, 2016 LDF Voter ID Update

STATES

Missouri

Voters in 13 states head to the polls for Super Tuesday. State legislators in five of those states have passed voter ID laws. Missouri state legislators are taking up a similar bill this session.

The bill's sponsor on the senate side, Sen. Will Kraus, a Republican from Lee's Summit, said the voter ID bill is necessary to maintain the integrity of state elections.

"We want to makes sure we protect the election process and photo ID is one way to verify who a voter is," said Kraus.

[Missouri lawmakers consider voter ID bill similar to Super Tuesday states](#)

North Carolina

After years of debate and lawsuits, showing photo identification at the polls is now a fact of life for North Carolina voters.

Early voting for the March 15 primary started Thursday across the state, and every voter is being asked for a photo ID, even if they've voted at the same precinct for years and the poll workers know them.

"The check-in official is going to be responsible for looking for reasonable

resemblance, and the only thing they're looking at is the photo on the ID – does the photo reasonably resemble the person?" said Kim Strach, director of the State Board of Elections.

[Age of voter ID dawns in NC](#)

Texas

The full 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will to hear arguments on the constitutionality of the Texas voter identification law, the court said late Wednesday.

The move, in response to a request by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, is the latest step in a case that seems destined for the U.S. Supreme Court. . . .

“Safeguarding the integrity of our elections is a primary function of state government and is essential to preserving our democratic process,” he said in a statement. “We look forward to presenting our case before the full Fifth Circuit.”

[Federal appeals court to hear Texas voter ID case](#)

[Briefing Schedule](#)

Virginia

Several former state and local election officials testified Tuesday that they were not aware of any eligible voter who has been denied the right to cast a ballot because of Virginia’s photo voter ID requirement enacted in 2013.

“None,” said Cameron Quinn, a former state elections official who from 2011 until last year was the general registrar for Fairfax County. . . . Justin Riemer, a former member of the Virginia State Board of Elections and Donald Palmer, the former secretary of the board, also testified Tuesday that they were not aware of anyone unable to vote because of the photo requirement.

[Former election officials testify that no Va. voters denied due to photo ID law](#)

[Trial on Virginia voter ID law wraps up](#)

West Virginia

The Senate Judiciary Committee passed a bill requiring voters to show an ID at

the polls, but amended the bill to include many more kinds of identification than had been included by the House of Delegates. . . .

Senate Majority Leader Mitch Carmichael, said ID was just another mechanism to ensure voters' identity. Currently poll workers match a voter's signature with one on file.

[Senate committee passes voter ID bill, with many changes](#)

Wisconsin

Community leaders held a press conference Wednesday morning to announce March as Voter ID Month in Madison, an effort coordinated by VoteRiders and the Dane County Voter ID Coalition that aims to spread awareness of the new voter ID law passed in February.

[Community leaders announce Voter ID Month in Madison](#)

[Vehicles could deliver voter IDs under new policy suggestion](#)

Compiled by Andrew Bennett and Lisa Dixon. If you have an item for a future voter ID update, please email lawyersdf@gmail.com. For the latest news on election integrity issues, check the [LDF website](#) or [LDF Twitter feed](#).

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Lawyers Democracy Fund

56295 Little Moniteau Road
California, MO 65018
Phone: 202-441-5487

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