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Friday Voter ID Update

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NATIONAL

AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION AND ID

After the successful amendment of West Virginia's new voter ID law to include automatic voter registration, it is likely that those opposed to voter ID laws will offer automatic voter registration as a compromise for enacting a new voter ID measures. This is a poor compromise for legislators to make: protecting the integrity of elections through voter ID while <u>risking election fraud through</u> automatic voter registration.

SPECIAL

<u>LDF Board Member Joanne Young published an op-ed on automatic voter registration and the DMV mishandling voter registrations:</u>

The DMV has been handling voter registrations for years under the National Voter Registration Act. . . . However, as many recently disenfranchised voters have come to realize, despite the DMV's years of experience, it is not very good at handling voter registrations. . . . Issues with the DMV handling voter registrations this election season have proven that automatic voter registration is a seriously flawed proposition that actually disenfranchises some primary voters.

The DMV Has A Terrible Track Record Of Handling Voter Registration

STATES

MISSOURI

Democrats used stall tactics to hold the floor from roughly 4 to 7:15 p.m., halting further action on the bill. They say requiring photo ID at the polls would make it harder for an estimated 220,000 Missouri registered voters without IDs to cast ballots.

More stalling in Missouri Senate, this time on contentious Voter ID measure

NEVADA

A common argument against voter ID laws is the concern that they may make it harder for minorities to vote because they are less likely to have a government-issued photo ID. A separate Pew Research Center survey found, "Overall, 71% of Hispanic registered voters say voters should be required to show an official identification to be allowed to vote on Election Day."

Fact Checker: Is Sharron Angle right on voter ID support?

NORTH DAKOTA

A federal judge in North Dakota has refused to dismiss a lawsuit that contends that North Dakota's voter ID laws are unfair and violate the constitution. Federal judge in North Dakota rules in voter ID lawsuit

WEST VIRGINIA

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin has signed a bill that requires voters to show some form of identification before casting a ballot at his or her polling place as well as creates an an automatic voter registration process system. The bill was the result of a conference committee on the final night of the session that negotiated an expanded list of the forms of identification.

Tomblin Signs Voter ID, Automatic Voter Registration Bill LDF Talking Points on Automatic Voter Registration

WISCONSIN

In general, voting went smoothly Tuesday, but there were lines of an hour or more in a few locations statewide, especially near college campuses such as Marquette University and the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. In most cases, the delays at the polls had more to do with the historic number of voters who showed up and less to do with the photo ID law.

Jury is still out on voter ID after first big test

The primary was also the first real test of the state's new voter ID law, which some opponents have said creates confusion and unnecessary barriers for some voters. Kennedy said voter ID didn't cause too many hiccups on Tuesday, other than lengthening wait times at the polls. "We know that voter ID is going to create longer lines because it takes longer. A poll worker has to do more things when a voter comes in," he said.

Wisconsin Sees 'Historic' Voter Turnout For Tuesday Primary

One of the most talked about moments on election night did not involve any of the races. It was a comment from U.S. Congressman Glenn Grothman. TODAY'S TMJ4'S Charles Benson asked him how the GOP expects to take Wisconsin in November: "Hillary Clinton is one of the weakest candidates they ever put up, and now we have photo ID, and I think photo ID is gonna make a little bit of a difference as well," said Rep. Glenn Grothman, (R-Wisconsin). Congressman Grothman doubled down on his comments Wednesday about how the law will help the GOP win come November.

"I think if you feel that the elections are run honestly, more people will turn out, and I think more of those people who turn out will vote Republican. You got to remember it was to a certain extent a flip comment as well," says Grothman. Rep. Grothman responds to voter ID controversy, says high turnout benefits Republicans

"Wisconsin's Voter ID law has been under attack since it was signed into law nearly five years ago," Attorney General Brad Schimel said. "Court after court has decided the law is constitutional and I will continue to defend the law until all legal challenges are settled so Wisconsinites can have confidence their vote is not being diluted or diminished by illegal and fraudulent votes."

AG Schimel Defends Wisconsin's Voter ID Law in Federal Court

A number of media sources and voter ID opponents continue to claim incorrectly that 300,000 registered voters in Wisconsin lack the identification necessary to vote. This discredited figure overestimates the number of voters without DMV-issued ID, ignores other forms of ID acceptable under the law, and does not account for any person who has obtained an ID in the past two years. For a scholarly refutation of the 300,000 disenfranchised Wisconsin voters statistic, see the discussion of Wisconsin in Don Palmer's study, *Faulty Data Fuel Challenges to Voter ID Laws*.

About 300,000 residents of Wisconsin alone are going to be subjected to voter fraud perpetrated by the state's Republican Party—the fraud of saying that even though they're American citizens and have voted all their lives, they're not allowed to do it anymore. Scott Walker's Wisconsin may disenfranchise 300,000 Americans in blatant voter fraud scheme

Randle is one of 300,000 registered voters in Wisconsin, 9 percent of the electorate, who do not have a government-issued photo ID and could be disenfranchised by the state's new voter-ID law, which is in effect for the first time in 2016.

Wisconsin's Voter-ID Law Could Block 300,000 Registered Voters From the Polls

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 Twitter feed.

Lawyers Democracy Fund is organized under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is dedicated to promoting the role of ethics and legal professionalism in the electoral process.

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