



Native American Voting Protections

No updates required since April 3, 2024

Background

Native Americans often face additional obstacles to voting, due to geographic challenges, lack of access to mail and government services, and a history of voter suppression, among other factors. A small number of states have implemented laws specifically designed to address and mitigate these obstacles.

Scoring

- State has enacted Native American voting protections, 1 point
- State has no applicable law, 0 points

Summary Table

Category	Number	List
State has no applicable law	45 states & D.C.	Alabama Alaska Arizona Arkansas Connecticut Delaware D.C. Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska New Hampshire New Jersey New York North Carolina North Dakota



		Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Texas Utah Vermont Virginia West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming
State has enacted protections for Native American voters	5 states	California Colorado Nevada New Mexico Washington

State-by-State Sources and More Detail

Alabama (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Alaska (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Arizona (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Arkansas (0)

- State has no applicable law.

California (1)

- California enacted [AB 2314](#) in 2020, requiring the establishment of a Native American Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee to advise the Secretary of State. The Committee is required to recommend policies to make election materials more accessible, improve voter services for Native Americans, and train poll workers to better assist Native American voters, among other issues.



Colorado (1)

- Colorado enacted [HB 1278](#) in 2019, which allows voters living on Indian reservations to register to vote using residences not recognized by the postal service, including the address of a tribal council headquarters.
- Colorado also enacted [SB 276](#) in 2023, which established new provisions facilitating voter registration through Tribe authorities and allows more in-person voting on Tribe lands.

Connecticut (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Delaware (0)

- State has no applicable law.

D.C. (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Florida (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Georgia (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Hawaii (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Idaho (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Illinois (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Indiana (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Iowa (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Kansas (0)

- State has no applicable law.



Kentucky (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Louisiana (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Maine (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Maryland (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Massachusetts (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Michigan (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Minnesota (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Mississippi (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Missouri (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Montana (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Nebraska (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Nevada (1)

- Nevada has enacted multiple laws to protect Native American voting rights, including [SB 492](#) (2017), [AB 432](#) (2021), [AB 321](#) (2021), [SB 216](#) (2023), and [SB 327](#) (2023). These laws address voting access, polling places, automatic voter registration, and drop boxes, respectively.

New Hampshire (0)

- State has no applicable law.



New Jersey (0)

- State has no applicable law.

New Mexico (1)

- New Mexico enacted [HB 231](#) in 2021, which implements protections for polling places on tribal lands.

New York (0)

- State has no applicable law.

North Carolina (0)

- State has no applicable law.

North Dakota (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Ohio (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Oklahoma (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Oregon (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Pennsylvania (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Rhode Island (0)

- State has no applicable law.

South Carolina (0)

- State has no applicable law.

South Dakota (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Tennessee (0)

- State has no applicable law.



movement advancement project ▶

Texas (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Utah (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Vermont (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Virginia (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Washington (1)

- Washington enacted [SB 5079](#) in 2019, the “Native American Voting Rights Act of Washington.” The law addresses voter registration, drop boxes, and tribal IDs, among other topics.

West Virginia (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Wisconsin (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Wyoming (0)

- State has no applicable law.

Democracy Map & Additional Resources

- See our Democracy Map, [Native American Voting Protections](#), which is updated in real time.