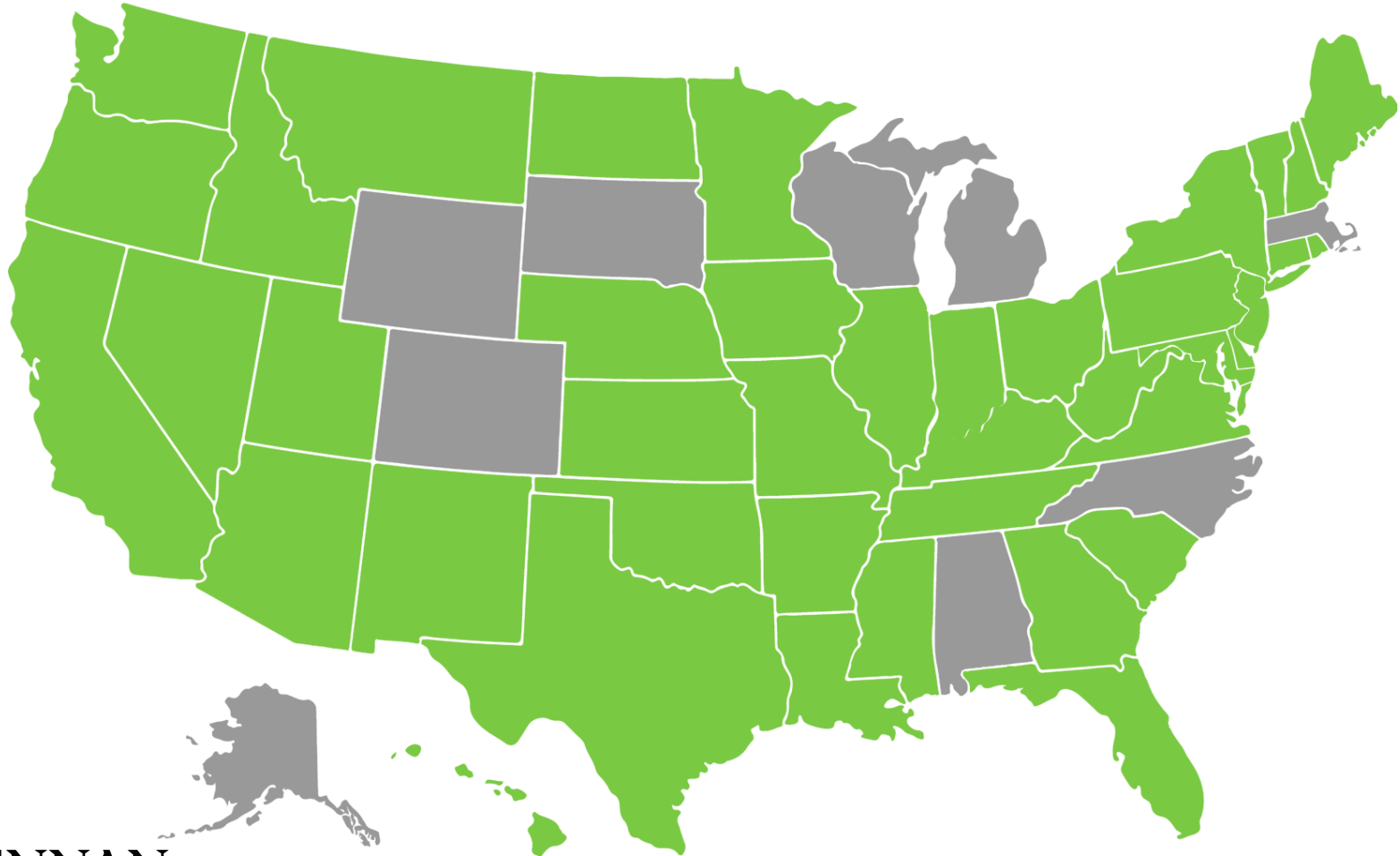


# Expansive Bills Introduced or Carried Over (March 12, 2019)

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## Expansive Bills (as of March 2019)

- **New York:** After years of maintaining a broken election system, New York has enacted significant pro-voter reforms.
  - The state established **early voting** (SB 1102), **pre-registration** for 16- and 17-year-olds (AB 774), and **portability** of registration records (AB 775). It also consolidated the dates for state and federal primaries and required ballots to be distributed to military voters farther in advance of elections (AB 779).
  - The Legislature also passed constitutional amendments to permit same-day registration (SB 1048) and no-excuse absentee voting (SB 1049), which will need to be passed again and then ratified by the voters.
  - And there is a major push underway to pass automatic voter registration (“AVR”).
- **Virginia:** Governor Northam signed a bill adding protections for absentee voters (HB 1790). And the legislature has sent Governor Northam two additional expansive bills for his signature. These bills establish **no-excuse early in-person voting** (SB 1026/HB 2790) and require notification to applicants whose voter registration applications are rejected (HB 1042).
- Looking across the country, as in recent years, bills expanding access to early and absentee voting, modernizing the voter registration process, and restoring voting rights to people who have lost them due to a felony conviction remain popular.
  - **Early and Absentee Voting.** Thirty-one states have introduced 169 bills expanding access to early and absentee voting. Fourteen states have at least held or scheduled a hearing on 24 of these bills.
  - **Automatic Voter Registration.** Twenty-six states have introduced 66 bills establishing or expanding automatic voter registration. Seven states have at least held or scheduled a hearing on eight of these bills.
  - **Same Day Registration.** Twenty-two states have introduced 57 bills establishing or expanding access to same-day registration. Five states have at least held or scheduled a hearing on eleven of these bills.
  - **Rights Restoration.** Twenty states have introduced 88 bills that would restore voting rights to people with a felony conviction or significantly improve the registration process for these voters. (Note, though, that Mississippi lawmakers introduced 25 of these bills and all of them have failed.) Ten states have at least held or scheduled a hearing on 16 of these bills.
- Overall, 28 states are moving expansive bills through their legislative process – holding at least a hearing on the bill. See below for the full listing.

Expansive Bills – Moving

AZ	SB 1054	Notice and opportunity to cure absentee ballot signature discrepancy	Passed Senate and House committee
AR	HB 1522	Extend absentee voting opportunities to Arkansas National Guard while on active state duty	Passed House and Senate committee
CT	HB 5844	Designate housing agencies as voter registration agencies	Passed committee
	SB 25	Restore voting rights to people on parole	Held hearing
	HB 7213	Restore voting rights to people on parole	Held hearing
	SB 53	Restore voting rights to people who are incarcerated	Held hearing
	SB 266	Require polling places at institutions of higher education	Held hearing
	HB 5818	Permit applicants in line for election day registration before polls close to register and vote	Held hearing
	HB 6045	Permit applicants in line for election day registration before polls close to register and vote	Held hearing
	SB 156	Ease absentee ballot application process	Held hearing
	SB 915	Ease absentee ballot application process	Held hearing
	HJR 161	Constitutional amendment to permit no-excuse absentee voting	Scheduled hearing
	SJR 27	Constitutional amendment to permit no-excuse absentee voting	Scheduled hearing
	SB 1046	Election day registration application processing at polling places	Scheduled hearing
	HB 6059	Permits registrars to apply to provide additional election day registration locations	Scheduled hearing
FL	SB 7066	Establish a cure process for provisional and absentee ballots. (Note, though, that this bill also tightens the absentee ballot application deadline.)	Held hearing
GA	HB 316	Omnibus bill, including improvements to “no match, no vote” policy, voter purges, absentee voting, provisional voting, voting for people with disabilities. <sup>1</sup>	Passed House
HI	HB 168	Permit voters with special needs to receive unvoted ballots by electronically	Passed House
	SB 412	Establish AVR	Passed Senate
	HB 1217	Establish AVR	Passed committee

	HB 1485	Automatic pre-registration of high school students	Passed House
	SB 1503	Permit incarcerated Hawaiians to vote	Passed committee
IA	HSB 68	Constitutional amendment to permit restoration of voting rights on completion of sentence	Passed committee
	SSB 1046	Constitutional amendment to permit restoration of voting rights on completion of sentence	Passed sub-committee
IN	HB 1643	Designate additional voter registration agencies pursuant to NVRA	Passed committee
KS	SB 130	Opportunity to cure absentee ballot deficiencies	Passed Senate
	SB 129	Permit voters to vote at any polling place within county	Passed committee
	SB 43	Establish same day registration	Held hearing
	HB 2092	Establish same day registration	Held hearing
MD	HB 286	Establish election day registration (implementing constitutional amendment passed in November 2018)	Passed House
	HB 237	Extend hours at early vote centers	Passed House
	HB 79	Increase number of early vote centers	Passed committee
	SB 449	Establish election day registration	Passed committee
	HB 747	Expand AVR to additional state agencies	Held hearing
	HB 423	Establish high schools as voter registration agencies	Held hearing
	HB 934	Establish high schools as voter registration agencies	Held hearing
	HB 784	Combat deceptive voting practices	Held hearing
	HB 382	Allow voters to access absentee ballot status	Held hearing
	HB 565	Ensure equal access for voters with disabilities	Held hearing
SB 363	Ensure equal access for voters with disabilities	Held hearing	
MN	HF 45	Establish AVR	Passed committee
	HF 40	Restore voting rights on release from incarceration	Passed committee
	HF 94	Remove restrictions on number of voters who cannot read English or are physically unable to mark a ballot a person can assist	Passed committee
MO	HB 508	Restore voting rights on release from incarceration	Held hearing
	HB 368	Establish no-excuse absentee voting and improve voter ID law	Held hearing

	HB 202	Permits voters over 60 to vote absentee without an excuse	Held hearing
MT	HB 536	Establish AVR	Passed House
	SB 291	Improve access for voters with disabilities	Passed Senate
	SB 148	Ease process for people who register late to cast a ballot	Passed Senate
NE	SB 711	Repeal provisions stripping voting rights from people convicted of a felony	Scheduled hearing
	SB 83	Restore voting rights on completion of sentence (including probation and parole)	Scheduled hearing
	LB 687	Establish AVR	Scheduled hearing
	LB 718	Extend hours for early voting in populous counties	Scheduled hearing
	LB 733	Improve access for voters with disabilities	Scheduled hearing
NH	HB 105	Repeal restrictions impacting student voters	Passed House
	HB 106	Repeal restrictions impacting student voters	Passed House
	HB 611	Amend constitution to permit no-excuse absentee voting	Passed House
	HB 531	Ease absentee voting for residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities	Passed committee
	SB 7	Establish AVR	Passed committee
NJ	SB 589	Establish online voter registration	Passed Senate <sup>ii</sup>
	SB 2100	Repeal provisions stripping voting rights from people convicted of a felony	Passed committee
	SB 1603	Provide voter registration assistance to people completing criminal sentences	Passed committee
NM	HB 84	Establish AVR	Passed House
	HB 86	Establish same day registration	Passed House
	HB 57	Repeal provisions stripping voting rights from people convicted of a felony	Passed committee
	SB 672	Establish same day registration during early voting	Passed committee
NY	SB 1102	Establish early in-person voting	Enacted
	AB 774	Establish pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds	Enacted
	AB 775	Voter registration portability	Enacted
	AB 779	Consolidate primaries and distribute absentee ballots to military voters earlier	Enacted
	SB 1048	Constitutional amendment to permit same day registration	Passed both houses

	SB 1049	Constitutional amendment to permit no-excuse absentee voting	Passed both houses
ND	SB 2307	Minimum polling place hours	Passed Senate
OK	SB 496	Pre-registration for 17-and-a-half year-olds	Passed Senate
	SB 58	Employers must give employees two hours off to vote during early voting	Passed Senate
OR	SB 224	Eliminate failure-to-vote as trigger for placing voter in inactive status and permit military voters to request ballot using email or fax	Held hearing
TN	SB 589	Restore voting rights to people convicted of certain crimes on completion of sentence (including parole and probation)	Scheduled hearing
TX	HB 281	Establish online voter registration	Held hearing
UT	SB 61	Authorize extension of early voting hours	Passed both houses
VA	SB 1026/HB 2790	Establish early in-person voting	Passed both houses
	HB 1790	Permits absentee ballot applicant to cast ballot if in line when registrar's office closes	Enacted
	HB 1042	Notification to applicants whose registration applications are rejected	Passed both houses
WA	SB 5079	Native American voting rights act	Passed both houses
	SB 5076	Restore voting rights on release from incarceration and eliminate court power to revoke rights restoration for failure to pay legal financial obligations	Passed committee
	HB 1924	Restore voting rights on release from incarceration and eliminate court power to revoke rights restoration for failure to pay legal financial obligations	Passed committee
WV	HB 2362	Expand absentee voting qualifications	Passed both houses

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<sup>i</sup> The Georgia bill is the subject of a highly contentious fight. It does not require the use of hand-marked paper ballots and critics are concerned that it would result in the state purchasing voting systems that only use ballot-marking devices.

<sup>ii</sup> New Jersey is one of two state that carries over bills from even to odd years. The online voter registration bill passed the Senate last year, but has languished in an Assembly committee since then.