

PROTECT THE RIGHT TO VOTE

The Supreme Court decision in Shelby County v. Holder has suspended review of voting changes under Section 5 of the VRA.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO DETECT AND BLOCK DISCRIMINATORY VOTING CHANGES THAT UNDERMINE THE RIGHT TO VOTE!

Look Out For These Potentially Discriminatory Changes:

- Creating at-large voting districts
- Redrawing single member districts
- Changing municipal boundaries
- Changing the composition or structure of governmental bodies (e.g., a three-seat county commission becoming a five-seat county commission)
- Reducing opportunities to vote (e.g., reducing availability of early and/or absentee voting, reduction in numbers of polling places, reductions in numbers or poll workers and/or voting machines)
- New rules for registering and casting a ballot
- New rules for candidate qualification (e.g., new registration fee, new residency requirement, etc.)
- Implementing other special voting rules for at-large elections (e.g., run-off elections, residency districts, and numbered positions)

Red Flags:

- Changes that seem to be targeted in ways that disadvantage minority voters (e.g., adoption of inconvenient or hostile polling sites)
- Changes that are adopted last minute and/or without public comment
- Distribution of confusing or misleading information related to voting changes (e.g., explanation for the change doesn't make sense)

Other Issues To Report:

- Existing voting practices (rather than recent changes) that appear to be improper or questionable (e.g., maintaining at-large voting districts)
- Irregularities in the processing of voter registration applications (e.g., not processing forms until right before the election, not calling voters to confirm missing information)
- Denying voters the assistor of their choice
- Deceptive practices, including: giving false information about voting (wrong date, false requirements, erroneous precinct information, etc.), and giving wrong directions to new polling sites
- Lack of language assistance from election officials
- Ballots that are not translated or poorly translated

Other Issues to Report Cont'd:

- Targeting minority candidates for harassment or unfair treatment
- Intimidating flyers, posters or other literature threatening voters
- Intimidating behavior by poll workers or others (e.g., uniformed personnel, guns, taking down license plates of voters)
- Harassing voters needing language assistance

TAKE ACTION!

STEP 1

Be involved and aware of voting practices in your local community! Attend your local county/city election board meetings, look out for changes reported in your local newspaper, become a poll worker, and be aware of red flags that could indicate potential discrimination.

STEP 2

CALL 1-866-OUR-VOTE to ask questions, to get answers, and to report improper or questionable voting changes in your district, county, or state!

STEP 3

Stay informed and connected.
Visit <http://shelby.866ourvote.org> or *TEXT votingrights to 313131* for more information and additional resources regarding the *Shelby County* decision and the Voting Rights Act.