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*Non-partisan, non-
profit election integrity*

"Cleaning Up American Elections"

America's Top 33 Legislative Initiatives for Honest, Transparent Elections

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Garland Favorito



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National Election Solutions by Category

- ❖ Ballot Casting and Counting
- ❖ Precinct Level Results Reporting
- ❖ Tabulation and Reconciliation
- ❖ Voter Eligibility
- ❖ Transparency (Process and Technical)
- ❖ Chain of Custody
- ❖ Absentee Ballot Security
- ❖ Election Independence
- ❖ Public Involvement
- ❖ Operational Improvements
- ❖ Accountability



Ballot Casting & Counting

All votes must be cast only on hand-marked paper ballots. Physically disabled voters requiring accommodations are an exception. The ballots cannot be subject to electronically triggered adjudication or alteration by anyone other than the original voter.

All races on all ballots must be counted by hand in public at each precinct or polling location. Alternatively, ballots may be fully audited before certification by hand in public for each polling location independent of the office of the Secretary of State.

All ballots must be security grade. Ballot features must include currency grade paper, serialized numerical control, micron printing, blacklight watermarking, a mylar hologram, and tear-off stubs that do not identify a voter but allow voters to confirm their ballot selections on line



Precinct Level Results Reporting

- Election Day voting must be conducted at voter precincts in accordance with the Tennessee Constitution Art IV, Sec. 1
- Election Precinct vote totals must be publicly posted upon completion of voting on Election Night at those precincts
- Mail-in and early in-person votes must be allocated to the precinct of the voters when results are published



Tabulation and Reconciliation

- **Ballot counts received, tabulated and not yet tabulated must be public on Election Night.** These are currently reported by county election offices at 10pm to the Secretary of State. The counts must be posted by each county on a public web site. The office of the Secretary of State must publicly post the total for each county and all counties on their web site.
- **Election officials must immediately reconcile and resolve any discrepancies in ballot counts and finalize them by end of Election Day.** This entails reconciling ballots cast, voters who voted, and actual ballots received. Reconciliation must be completed for absentee ballot processing, early voting, Election Day precinct voting and for county totals prior to certification.



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Voter Eligibility

Registered voters must be at least 18 years of age, demonstrate proof of citizenship, provide photo identification and proactively elect to register at least 30 days prior to an election. The original registration date must be permanently preserved.

Invalid voter roll entries must be removed quarterly. These include entries that are duplicated or do not have a valid physical, residential address.

Voter rolls must be maintained only by county or state election officials

Non-military UOCAVA voters must confirm annually their eligibility for a UOCAVA ballot



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Election Process Transparency

All original election ballots must be available for inspection and duplication by the public immediately upon certification of an election. Ballot availability must continue until their retention period expires and pending lawsuits that require them are resolved.

All county election functions must be verified. Functions include those for ballots, ballot envelopes, tabulation, testing and UOCAVA transmissions. Verifiers should be credentialed poll watchers or monitors from any political body or party. Surveillance by video cameras should produce recordings that are publicly available immediately at a reasonable, or no, cost.

Duplication of all ballots must be verified. This includes damaged, provisional and UOCAVA ballots. Verifiers must be credentialed monitors and a vote review panel that consists of a minimum of three members, including two from different political parties or political bodies.



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Technical Transparency

All election file and voter roll changes must be recorded in a log file. The log must include the date and time of update and a **unique ID** used to identify each temporary or permanent election worker making the update.

All electronic election audit and log files must be publicly available throughout the duration of federal and state retention law. This includes, ballot images, image authentication files and voter roll change history logs in their original file format. (Ex: .SHA, Slogs.txt, etc.)

Non-proprietary, open-source program code must be used in any computerized election or voter registration software.



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Chain of Custody

Chain of custody, sealing and sign off procedures must be implemented and enforced. The procedures must cover ballots, their containers, video surveillance and electronic storage devices containing ballot images or other election audit files. The duration must cover from the time received or placed into service until the expiration of federal and state retention requirements.

Each election worker who updates election records must have a unique ID to identify that temporary or permanent election worker who makes an update.
Generic IDs and shared ID must be prohibited



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Absentee Ballot Security

Drop boxes must be replaced by designated, secure drop off ballot bags at all voting locations and election offices. An absentee mail-in ballot can only be mailed in or dropped off at a polling location, precinct or election office.

Each absentee ballot must be sealed in its envelope and the ID of the deliverer and relationship to the voter must be recorded by a poll worker.

All early voting poll locations must be permanent structures used by residents and designated prior to the election for the entire early voting period.



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Election Independence

No private money or complimentary resources may be accepted to conduct elections. This includes any election official or government agency responsible for conducting elections and the Secretary of State.

Outsourcing of private voter registration data to third party vendors must be prohibited. (ERIC, Salesforce etc.)

A Secretary of State who is responsible for elections must be elected by the people, not appointed by a legislature

Any State Election Board or Commission must be independent of the office of the Secretary of State. The state legislature must fund board investigators, legal staff, technology, clerical staff and all functions.



Public Involvement

All county election workers must be eligible to vote in state elections. The workers must have met normal employee screening standards to be eligible to perform any county election function performed by elections departments, polling locations or county election boards.

Poll watchers may use generally accepted means to gain evidence of incidents and noncompliant election processes. This includes photography, video and audio recordings at poll locations and election offices. Such recordings must maintain confidentiality of voters and workers

Citizens must be able to challenge invalid voter roll entries without retribution, retaliation or litigation.



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Operational Improvements

Complicated voting methods that produce results which are not easily verifiable must be prohibited for all types of voting including UOCAVA.

(Ranked choice, instant runoff, preferential, etc.)

Early voting should be limited or eliminated to uphold federal law. Early voting should be limited to 14 days or eliminated and replaced with a holiday for Primary and General Election Days during each two-year cycle.

Mail-in voting should require an excuse to be stated on the mail-in ballot application.



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Accountability

State, county or municipal election workers who willfully fail to perform their duties shall be guilty of misdemeanor or felony depending upon the seriousness of the violation

State, county or municipal agencies who willfully fail to perform their duties shall be subject to a fine of at least \$10,000



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