



**South Carolina
just passed the
nation's most
restrictive voter
photo ID law.**

**If you don't have a passport, military ID
or state-issued photo ID,
you will not be allowed to vote!**

**Because a birth certificate is required to get a photo ID,
thousands of registered SC voters are at risk of being disenfranchised.
Especially vulnerable are seniors and the poor.**

**The SC Progressive Network is gathering affidavits of voters facing problems
because of the new requirements. We will forward these stories to the
US Justice Dept, which has 60 days to review the law.**

**Help us find voters with no photo ID or birth certificate so we
can document their difficulties and expenses in getting a photo ID.**

**Contact the SC Progressive Network
803-808-3384 or network@scpronet.com**

**See www.scpronet.com for background on the photo ID law
and how you can help fight it.**

**On May 18, 2011, Gov. Haley signed the nation's
most restrictive voter photo ID law.**

**Now, if you don't have a photo ID card issued by the state of South Carolina,
a passport or a military ID, you will not be allowed to vote.**

**The law was passed even though there is no evidence of voter fraud in South
Carolina. Opponents of the law say it is an attempt at voter suppression.**

Voters without one of three types of photo ID will vote using a "provisional ballot" that will not count unless you produce the required photo ID before the vote is certified (three days after a general election).

You have to have a birth certificate to get a photo ID. The "non-driver" photo IDs are free to anyone over 18 at local DMV offices. You must take a birth certificate, proof of Social Security number and proof of residency (tax notices and utility bills with current address can be used to prove residency).

If you do not have a birth certificate in the name you use, you cannot get a DMV-issued photo ID. If a name has changed since birth, an applicant must present all legal documents (adoption records, marriage certificate or license issued by state/county records office, certificate of naturalization, and court ordered name change) supporting all changes from the name which appears on the birth certificate or proof of identity to the present.

Going to court to correct a name can cost over \$1,000 in filing and legal fees.

You must have a photo ID to get a birth certificate. The Dept. of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) state and county offices can issue a birth certificate for \$12. DHEC requires a current state, federal, school or employer photo ID to get a birth certificate.

DHEC refers people to VitalCheck.com, a private on-line service for birth certificates. You have to have a computer, email address, telephone number and one of four major credit cards to use the service for an average cost of \$30. You may not have to provide a photo ID if you correctly answer a quiz about your birth history.

Can this law be stopped?

Due to South Carolina's poor history regarding civil rights, all changes in our voting laws must be approved by the US Department of Justice. When SC applies to the DOJ for "pre-clearance" of the law, there is a 60-day comment period before DOJ approves or denies the application.

The SC Election Commission found that 178,175 South Carolinians have voter registration cards but no state-issued photo ID. The top 15 counties, by percentage of voters without photo ID, all have a minority population that historically votes Democrat. In Richland County alone, 18,865 voters do not have state-issued photo IDs.

The SC Progressive Network needs help to gather first-person statements documenting the difficulties and expenses of those attempting to get photo IDs. These affidavits will be submitted to the Justice Department as it considers whether the law disenfranchises minority voters.

Call 803-808-3384 or email network@scpronet.com for details.