

SC Voter Photo ID Campaign Toolkit

This toolkit is to help volunteers gather statements of South Carolina voters at risk of being disenfranchised by the new photo ID law.

These statements will be submitted to the US Justice Department, which has 60 days to review the new law to rule whether it violates civil rights. The statements may also be used as affidavits, should the case go to federal court.

To find people to interview, contact local senior facilities and churches, and post the flyer and fact sheet in the back of this toolkit, which also can be downloaded at scpronet.com.

To volunteer to conduct interviews, contact the SC Progressive Network so we can track who is doing what so our campaign can be its most efficient. Reach us at 803-808-3384 or network@scpronet.com.

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Instructions for gathering SC voter photo ID comments

On May 18, 2011, the governor signed a law that requires a state-issued photo ID, passport, or military ID to vote. Because of our state's history of discrimination against black voters, all changes to voting laws must be approved by the US Dept. of Justice (DOJ), a provision of the 1964 Voting Rights Act.

DOJ has 60 days to consider evidence as to the law's impact on minority voters. **The Voting Rights Act mandates that laws do not "have the purpose and will not have the effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race or color."** These comments will be submitted to DOJ — and possibly federal court — to show that many people of color in South Carolina will not be able to vote if this law is approved.

To meet DOJ's 60-day deadline, we are targeting minority, registered voters who don't have a birth certificate, or who don't have one in their current name. We will, however, take comments from citizens regardless of their race.

To get a photo ID, the SC Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) requires a birth certificate, noting that: "If name has changed since birth, 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 name changes from the name which appears on the birth certificate or proof of identity to the present."

More than 178,000 registered SC voters do not have a photo ID. Citizens born at home may have never had a birth certificate. They must also have proof of residency and a Social Security number (See attachment A). To get a birth certificate requires a state- or federal- issued photo ID in the person's current name. The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) requires a photo ID to get a copy of a birth certificate. (See attachment B).

DHEC advises that you can get a birth certificate through VitalCheck.com, a private service that charges a fee and waives the photo ID requirement if you can answer a quiz about your life. The on-line service requires the applicant to have an e-mail account and telephone, and only accepts major credit cards. Commenters should document their experience and expenses if they attempted to get a birth certificate through VitalCheck.

While comments to DOJ do not have to be notarized, if the law is challenged in federal court sworn and notarized statements will be required. As such, please have the statements you gather notarized.

1. If you want to conduct interviews, call the Progressive Network so we can track what volunteers are doing.
2. If you don't want to do the interview but know of someone who cannot meet the photo ID law requirements, provide their contact information and we will assign an interviewer.
3. This is a non-partisan project.
4. This is a volunteer effort. Reimbursement for expenses must be approved in advance.
5. All statements must be written by the person commenting, or dictated to a witness or notary.
6. If the commenter does not have valid ID and is not known to the notary, the witness must know the commenter.
7. All statements must include the DOJ submission number (contact the Network for the number), date, required signatures and be notarized.
8. Citizens lacking DMV photo ID and a DHEC birth certificate should attempt to obtain both prior to making their comments. Call and request these documents, and report the results:
 - DMV: 803-896-5000
 - DHEC Vital Records: 803-898-3630

Return completed comments to:

SC Progressive Network, PO Box 8325 Columbia SC 20202

Fax: 803-808-3781

Comments can be scanned and emailed to network@scpronet.com.

Call the Network with any questions: 803-808-3384.

COMMENT ON SOUTH CAROLINA'S PHOTO VOTER ID LAW

ACT #0027 OF 2011: SUBMISSION NUMBER: _____

TO: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, VOTING SECTION

Date: _____

Full name (Print): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ email: _____

1. US citizen and SC resident? Yes No

Registered SC Voter? Yes No Voter Registration #: _____

Gender: _____ Race: _____ Date of birth: _____

2. Do you have a current and valid SC Dept. of Motor Vehicles photo ID, passport or US military ID? Yes No

3. Do you have a birth certificate in the name you currently use? Yes No

If no, summarize why you don't have a birth certificate, a name that doesn't match, or other problems getting photo ID.

(Person making the statement can write or dictate to witness. Sign, witness and notarize any additional sheets necessary.)

4. Have you attempted to get a state-issued photo ID? Yes No 5. Did you get a state-issued photo ID? Yes No
If no, summarize why you were denied a state issued photo ID and any expenses encountered.

Page two: Continued comments by: _____

6. Will you be able to cast a vote at the polls in SC if the photo ID law goes into effect? Yes No

Additional comments: _____

I swear or affirm these comments to be true: _____
(Signature of commenter)

Witnessed by: _____ (Printed name)
(Signature: commenters lacking photo ID must be known by witness)

SC Notary Public: _____ (Printed name)
(Signature)

Commission Expires: _____

Return the completed comment form to: SC Progressive Network, POB 8325, Columbia SC
29202 • Fax: 803-808-3781 • Email: network@scpronet.com
Assistance in filling out this form and questions: 803-808-3384

Attachment A:

South Carolina Dept. of Motor Vehicles requirements for photo ID

The following requirements are for applicants applying for a first time S.C. Driver's License, Beginner's Permit, or Identification Card, or for applicants previously licensed in S.C. who are returning after having been licensed in another state.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS: Documents not in English must be translated by a qualified translator. The translator must have a letter of verification from their employer on letterhead qualifying them as a translator. The translation must be made on DMV Form 4030 Translation Document.

- Proof of U.S. Citizenship/Proof of Identity (see specific requirements below).
- Proof of Social Security Number.
- Proof of S.C. Residency.
- Liability insurance information from company licensed to do business in S.C. (not required for Beginner's Permit or Identification Card)

ALL APPLICANTS FOR DRIVER'S LICENSE MUST PROVIDE AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE INFORMATION

Proof of U.S. Citizenship/Proof of Identity and Date of Birth - Applicants must provide one of the following:

- Birth Certificate with birth/file number and registrar's signature issued by the county or Bureau of Vital Statistics.
- Birth Certificate from U.S. Territory (Must be translated if not in English) - Puerto Rico, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands and U.S. Samoa.
- Delayed birth certificate – If birth certificate is not issued at time of birth, customer can apply for birth certificate from Bureau of Vital Statistics.
- Current U.S. Passport or U.S. Passport that has not been expired more than 10 years.
- Current U.S. Passport Card
- Certificate of Naturalization -- USCIS Form (N-550 or N-570).
- U.S. government issued Consular Report of Birth Abroad.
- Certificate of Citizenship (N-560 or N-561).

NOTE: If the applicant's birth certificate shows that s/he was not born in the United States, the applicant must ALSO provide an additional document from the above list proving U.S. citizenship.

NOTE: If name has changed since birth, applicant must present all legal documents (i.e., adoption records, marriage certificate or license issued by state/county records office, certificate of naturalization, and court ordered name change) supporting all name changes from the name which appears on the birth certificate or proof of identity to the present.

Proof of Social Security Number — Applicants must provide one of the following (All documents must include Social Security number):

- Social Security Card.
- SSA-1099 - "Survivor Benefit Form".
- U.S. Military Photo ID Card (active, retired or reservist military status DOD, ID, DD-214).
- Current military dependent I.D. card.

Attachment A, Page two: South Carolina Dept. of Motor Vehicles requirements for photo ID

- U.S. Uniform Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD 1173) must include photograph.
- Letter from Social Security Administration (requires online verification)
- Medicare letter from Social Security Administration (requires online verification).
- Medicare Card (requires online verification).
- Payroll Stub must include employer's name and applicant's name (requires online verification).
- W-2 Form must include employer's name, address, and applicant's name (requires online verification).

Proof of Residency - All documents must show name and S.C. address of applicant, except as noted. Applicants must provide one of the following:

- School Records - Records must be from S.C. school (current or prior school year).
 - Student ID (address not required).
 - Report Card.
 - Letter or contract from Home Schooling Association.
 - Official letter from individual's school or school district on school or district letterhead.
 - Certified transcript.
 - Diploma from S.C. school (child has graduated within the last school year - address not required).
- Out-of-state or in-state tuition bill with applicant's S.C. physical address.
- Current employment records (no more than 90 days old). (Records must be from S.C. employer or have S.C. address for applicant on records from an out of state employer).
 - Letter on employer letterhead.
 - Payroll stub showing S.C. withholdings.
 - Intent to hire on employer letterhead.
- Current utility bill no more than 90 days old. A utility bill is specific to services for your residence. Examples are electric, water, sewage, cable, and land line phone lines. Cell phone and satellite bills are not acceptable.
- S.C. Medicaid card
- Parolee Card or letter from parole officer (no more than 90 days old).
- Home mortgage documents (no more than 90 days old).
- Current S.C. Weapon's Permit
- County Tax Notice or Property Receipt for home
- State or Federal Tax records.
 - Income tax returns for current or prior year are acceptable including electronic tax file or W2.
 - If applicant listed as dependent on SC tax return that is presented as proof of residency, proof applies to dependent also.
- Current Military Orders detailing active duty assignment in S.C.
- Current letter from Military Base with the commander verifying duty station in S.C.
- S.C. bank statement or signed letter (must be on bank letterhead) showing name of applicant and S.C. physical address (no more than 90 days old).
- Social security check showing name and S.C. physical address of applicant (no more than 90 days old).
- Insurance documentation (no more than 90 days old).
 - Letter from insurance company or agent licensed to do business in S.C. stating name of applicant and indicating S.C. address of applicant
 - Insurance policy, written by insurance company or agent licensed to do business in S.C. showing name of applicant and S.C. address
- Letter from director of S.C. social welfare institution (homeless shelter, battered women's shelter, halfway house, group home, orphanage, etc.) stating applicant is resident of facility (no more than 90 days old).
- Vehicle Insurance Card (only if S.C. address and customer's name appear on card).
- Article of mail with official Post Office address change label



Vital Records Birth/Death Application

A photocopy of a government, school or employer photo identification of the **applicant** must be submitted with all requests. Applications without proper identification will be returned unprocessed.

Name of applicant: _____ Day phone number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

E-mail address: _____

Address certificate to be mailed to if different than applicant's address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Your relationship to person named on the certificate. (Check one)

Self Adult child Family member (specify) _____

Parent Guardian Legal representative (for whom?) _____

For what purpose are you requesting this certificate? _____

By signing this application, I understand that making a false application for a vital record is a felony under state law.

Signature of applicant: _____

Printed name of applicant: _____

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Full name: _____
First Middle Last Suffix

Date of birth: _____ Sex: _____ City of birth: _____ County of birth: _____

Name of mother prior to any marriage: _____
First Middle Last

Name of father: _____
First Middle Last

Were parents married at time of birth: Yes No Number of children born in SC to this mother? _____

Name at birth if ever changed for any reason other than marriage: _____

Specify the number and type of certification(s) requested:

Birth long (\$12) Additional long (\$3 each) Birth short (\$12) Additional short (\$3 each)

Total fees submitted: _____ Expedite Additional \$5

DEATH CERTIFICATES

Name of deceased: _____
First Middle Last Suffix

Date of death: _____ Age at death: _____ Social security number _____

Sex: _____ City of death: _____ County of death: _____

Specify the number and type of certification(s) requested:

Death long (\$12) Additional long (\$3 each) Death short (\$12) Additional short (\$3 each)

Death statement (\$12) Additional statement (\$3 each)

Total fees submitted: _____ Expedite Additional \$5

Send completed application/photocopy of identification to: **SC DHEC - Vital Records
2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received: _____	BC SFN _____ R/F _____	DC SFN _____ R/F _____
BC 1st Search _____	BC Issue Date _____	1st Search _____ DC Issue Date _____
BC 2nd Search _____	DCN _____	2nd Search _____ DCN _____
LOC _____	_____	DNL _____
NFL/DNL _____	_____	_____

Vital Records Application for Birth and Death Certificates

Instructions and Information

- 1) One form may be used to request a certified copy of a birth certificate only, or a certified copy of a death certificate only, or a certified copy of a birth and death certificate if for the same individual.
- 2) Complete all of the information in the top section of the form and all information in the birth and/or death sections based upon whether a birth, death or both certificate(s) are being requested.

Information

BIRTHS AND DEATHS – SC Law did not require the filing of birth and death records until January 01, 1915. No birth or death records on file at SCDHEC (county or state) are available for public viewing.

A death record becomes public record fifty (50) years after the date of death. Non-certified copies of public death records are issued unless a certified copy is specifically requested. The \$12 "search fee" is required for each request of a public death record.

Death records are available for public viewing fifty (50) years after the date of death ONLY at the SC Department of Archives and History, 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, 29223, website: <http://archives.sc.gov>.

TURNAROUND TIME – The usual turnaround time for 'waiting' on-site customers is approximately thirty (30) minutes during non-peak hours (8:30 am - 11:00 am and 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm). The usual turnaround time for 'mail' requests is approximately three (3) weeks from the date of receipt. Expedited requests are processed and a response provided within 3 business days of receipt. The expedite fee is an additional \$5.00 for a birth and/or death request.

If it has been more than four (4) weeks since you submitted your request, call (803) 898 3630 to determine the status.

IDENTIFICATION – A valid/current government, school or employer issued photo identification document of the applicant is required before a search of the records will be conducted. Requests that do not contain proper identification will be returned unprocessed. Acceptable documents are:

1. Any United States' DMV Office issued picture identification i.e. Driver's License, ID card, Learner's Permit (unexpired)
2. Current school or employer picture identification card
3. Military card (unexpired – active duty or retired member)
4. United States Passport (unexpired)
5. Foreign Passport with Visa (I-94 or I-94W – unexpired)
6. Re-Entry Permit (I-327 – unexpired)
7. Refuge Travel Document (form I-571 – unexpired)
8. United States Citizen Identification Card (form I-197)
9. Temporary Resident Card (form I-688 – unexpired)
10. Permanent Resident Card (form I-551 – unexpired)
11. Weapon or gun permit issued by federal, state or municipal government (unexpired)

Website – www.scdhec.gov/vr/ provides additional information on SC Vital Records.

PAYMENT – Acceptable methods of payment for mail requests are a money order or cashier's check made payable to SC DHEC. Onsite customer service also accepts credit and debit cards and cash.

SEARCH FEE – A \$12 "search fee" is required by law. If the record is not found, the \$12 search fee is non-refundable. The required search fee includes one (1) certification, if record is located. If additional copies of the same type certification are ordered at the same time, additional copies are \$3 each.

TYPE OF CERTIFICATIONS

Birth Long contains parentage

Birth Short/Wallet does not include parentage

Death Long includes cause of death

Death Short does not include cause of death

Death Statement only includes fact of death



**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 in person.**

**The law was passed even though there is no evidence of voter ID 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.

For background on the photo ID law, see www.scpronet.com.