

# **PHOTO ID LAW**

# TENNESSEE $\bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$

For state and county primary election dates, visit www.sos.tn.gov

On January 1, 2012, Tennessee's law requiring a Tennessee- or federally-issued photo ID to vote went into effect.

This flyer addresses some common questions about the law.

# **DO I HAVE TO SHOW ID?**

Most likely. If you are voting in person, you must show a government-issued ID that includes your name and photo.

You won't need to show a photo ID if you live and vote in a nursing home, vote by mail, are hospitalized, have a religious objection to being photographed, or are low-income and don't have enough money to pay for a photo ID (see "What if I don't have any ID?" on back).

## WHAT ID CAN I SHOW TO VOTE?

Among other IDs, you can use a Tennessee driver's license, a U.S. passport, a voter ID, a photo ID issued by the Tennessee Dept. of Safety and Homeland Security, a photo ID issued by the federal government, a U.S. military ID, or a state-issued handgun carry permit with your photo, even if they are expired.

### ACLU Tennessee Having problems getting a photo ID? Call ACLU-TN at (615) 320-7142.



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www.aclu-tn.org/vote

#### WHAT IF I AM A FIRST-TIME VOTER?

★ If you vote in person, you must bring a photo ID to the polls. If you bring an expired photo ID to the polls or qualify for an exemption from the photo ID law, you will need to show a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or any other government document that shows your name and address. On September 9, 2020, a federal court ruled that firsttime voters who registered to vote online, by mail or at an event are able to vote by mail if they meet the vote-by-mail eligibility requirements, which can be found at https://www.aclu-tn.org/ voting-by-mail-tennessee/. This decision is under review and subject to change, so you should double check with your local election commission for the latest information.

### **ARE THERE ANY PHOTO IDS THAT WILL NOT WORK?**

★ You cannot use college student IDs, even from public universities, or local IDs such as library cards even if issued by the government. You cannot use photo IDs issued by other states. It must be issued from the federal government or the state of Tennessee.

#### WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE ANY ID?

- ★ If you forgot to bring your ID, it's usually better to go get it. If you don't have time or an ID, you can cast a provisional ballot. For your provisional ballot to count, you must show the right ID to the county election commission within 48 hours of the closing of the polls. Tenn. Code Ann. § 2-7-112.
- You can get a free ID by going to the nearest Driver Service Center, showing them proof of citizenship and two proofs of TN residency and signing an affidavit stating that you do not have a valid government-issued photo ID for voting purposes.
- ★ If you are low-income and can't afford a copy of the documents required to get a free photo ID, you may still vote if you sign a form stating under oath that you are indigent and have been unable to get a photo ID for voting without paying a fee.

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