SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

EXPAND ACCESS TO THE BALLOT BOX

WHAT IS SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRATION?

Same-day voter registration (SDR) allows people to register or update their voter registration and vote on Election Day, increasing access to the ballot by eliminating restrictive barriers. Voter registration deadlines disproportionately impact lower income individuals and those who move frequently, have unreliable transportation, recently received citizenship, and are new to the voting process. Many states that have instituted SDR say there is little to no additional cost to implement this change and it boosts voter turnout by 7-10% on average, making it one of the most impactful ways to increase participation in our democracy.

THE SITUATION IN VIRGINIA

Virginia is ranked 49th out of 50 states when it comes to how difficult it is to cast your ballot. That's partly because our voter registration process is difficult and restrictive. In Virginia, voters must register 21 days prior to an election. This arbitrary barrier prevents and discourages eligible voters from participating. Not only does it keep eligible voters who miss the registration deadline from participating, but it unnecessarily forces some voters who have not updated their registration by the deadline to cast provisional ballots, which are often not counted.

OUR GOALS

We must pass same-day voter registration in Virginia and remove these unnecessary hurdles for people to participate in our democracy. We need to make it easier for people to vote, and that starts with getting rid of arbitrary voter registration deadlines that disproportionately silence marginalized communities from the political process.

FACT

VIRGINIA RANKS

49TH

OUT OF 50 STATES REGARDING HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO VOTE.

Source: Northern Illinois University

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Here are a few things you can do to get involved:

- Stay up-to-date on this issue through our social media.
- Subscribe to our email list: **acluva.org**.
- Take action through our Lobby Guide: **acluva.org/lobby-guide**.
- Become a member: **acluva.org/join**
- Start a People Power group to work on this issue: **peoplepower.org**

ACLU
Virginia