

HR 775

Disability Voting Rights Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Feb 3, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on House Administration. (Feb 3, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/775>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Feb 3, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2358	Related bill	Oct 19, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.
117 S 1	Related bill	Aug 11, 2021: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 123.
117 S 954	Related bill	Mar 24, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.
117 HR 1	Related bill	Mar 11, 2021: Received in the Senate.

Disability Voting Rights Act

This bill requires each state to allow individuals with disabilities to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in federal elections.

The bill requires each state to

- accept and process any otherwise valid voter registration and absentee ballot applications from individuals with disabilities if the applications are received within the deadline for the federal election;
- establish procedures for individuals with disabilities to request, and for the state to send, voter registration and absentee ballot applications by mail and through electronic means;
- create procedures for securely transmitting blank absentee ballots by mail and through electronic means to individuals with disabilities;
- designate a single office to provide information on voter registration and absentee ballot procedures for individuals with disabilities; and
- specify a means of electronic communication for individuals with disabilities to request, and for the state to send, voter registration and absentee ballot applications.

Further, each state must transmit a validly requested absentee ballot to an individual with a disability within 45 days of an election. However, the bill establishes a procedure for a state to apply to the Department of Justice for a waiver of this requirement.

The bill also permanently reauthorizes and expands a program under which the Department of Health and Human Services makes payments to eligible states and units of local government to assure voting access for individuals with disabilities.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 3, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 3, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on House Administration.