

HR 5294

Unhoused Voter Opportunity Through Elections Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Aug 25, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Se

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. (Aug 25, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5294>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5]

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

Cosponsors (69 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Balint, Becca [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Brown, Shontel M. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Jackson, Jonathan L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Kamlager-Dove, Sydney [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. McClellan, Jennifer L. [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Mullin, Kevin [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Salinas, Andrea [D-OR-6]	D · OR		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Aug 25, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-25]	D · FL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Bush, Cori [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Sep 13, 2023
Rep. Frost, Maxwell [D-FL-10]	D · FL		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Mfume, Kweisi [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Oct 10, 2023
Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Nov 1, 2023
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Nov 2, 2023
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Nov 9, 2023
Rep. Casar, Greg [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Jan 3, 2024
Rep. Lee, Summer L. [D-PA-12]	D · PA		Jan 29, 2024
Rep. Magaziner, Seth [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Feb 6, 2024
Rep. Ramirez, Delia C. [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Feb 15, 2024
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Mar 11, 2024
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Mar 19, 2024
Rep. Deluzio, Christopher R. [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Mar 22, 2024
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		Mar 29, 2024
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Apr 15, 2024
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Jul 15, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	House	Referred To	Aug 25, 2023
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Aug 25, 2023
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Aug 25, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2971	Identical bill	Sep 28, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Unhoused Voter Opportunity Through Elections Act or the Unhoused VOTE Act

This bill expands voter registration and voting access for unhoused individuals.

The bill specifies that no state or political subdivision may deny or abridge the right of any U.S. citizen to vote because the citizen resides at or in a nontraditional abode.

Additionally, the bill requires jurisdictions that allow for ballot drop boxes to ensure that these drop boxes are available for in-person use and are accessible and clearly labeled.

If a state requires individuals to show proof of residence in order to vote in a federal election, then the state must accept the individual's written attestation of residence. A state may not prohibit an individual who is residing in a homeless shelter from using the shelter as the individual's residence for purposes of voting in a federal election.

The bill requires chief state election officials to conduct outreach to unhoused individuals.

The bill directs the Election Assistance Commission to (1) develop best practices for election officials regarding voter registration and voting access for unhoused individuals, and (2) make grants to eligible states and local governments for programs and activities to support access to voting for unhoused individuals.

The bill also revises the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, including by (1) treating emergency shelters as voter registration agencies, and (2) allowing an unhoused individual to use an unsheltered street location as the individual's place of residence for purposes of a voter registration application.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 25, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 25, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.