

## HR 5295

### Expanding the VOTE 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 the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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/5295>

### Sponsor

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

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

## Cosponsors (115 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		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. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-2]	D · PA		Aug 25, 2023
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Rep. Budzinski, Nikki [D-IL-13]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]	D · CA		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. Costa, Jim [D-CA-21]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6]	D · CO		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Davids, Sharice [D-KS-3]	D · KS		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Deluzio, Christopher R. [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]	D · CA		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. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		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. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		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. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Aug 25, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. McClellan, Jennifer L. [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Mullin, Kevin [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-12]	D · NY		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. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-50]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Ryan, Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		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. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		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. Scholten, Hillary J. [D-MI-3]	D · MI		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Scott, David [D-GA-13]	D · GA		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. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Torres, Ritchie [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Aug 25, 2023
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. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Aug 25, 2023
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Aug 25, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Bush, Cori [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		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. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Sep 26, 2023
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-25]	D · CA		Oct 3, 2023
Rep. Mfume, Kweisi [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Oct 10, 2023
Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4]	D · NV		Oct 19, 2023
Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-8]	D · MI		Nov 1, 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. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Nov 9, 2023
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]	D · TX		Nov 29, 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. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]	D · CA		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Amo, Gabe [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Mar 11, 2024
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		Mar 29, 2024
Rep. Landsman, Greg [D-OH-1]	D · OH		Mar 29, 2024
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Apr 9, 2024
Rep. Moskowitz, Jared [D-FL-23]	D · FL		May 31, 2024
Del. Plaskett, Stacey E. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Jun 11, 2024
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Jul 15, 2024
Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]	D · IL		Aug 9, 2024
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-6]	D · MI		Aug 23, 2024

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Committee on House Administration	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 2960	Identical bill	Sep 27, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## Summary (as of Aug 25, 2023)

### Expanding the Voluntary Opportunities for Translations in Elections Act or the Expanding the VOTE Act

This bill expands access to voting materials for individuals with limited proficiency in the English language.

Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA) requires covered states and political subdivisions to provide voting materials and other language assistance to persons who are American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish heritage and whose ability to speak or understand English limits electoral participation. A state or political subdivision that is subject to Section 203 is prohibited from providing English-only voting materials in an election. Among other requirements, this bill (1) requires the Department of Justice to issue a notice of prohibition, including the trigger threshold at which the prohibition applies, to certain states and political subdivisions; and (2) requires covered states and political subdivisions to provide written translations of all voting materials, with the consent of any applicable tribal government, to election workers.

Additionally, the bill requires the Election Assistance Commission to make incentive grants for states and political subdivisions to provide translated voting materials.

The bill also directs the Government Accountability Office to study and report on the impact of (1) reducing the threshold requirement under Section 203 of the VRA, and (2) expanding the definition of *language minorities* to include native speakers of additional languages.

## Actions Timeline

- **Aug 25, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 25, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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.