

TITLE 52—VOTING AND ELECTIONS

Subtitle I—Voting Rights

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431 note (Pub. L. 107-155, title IV, §402, Mar. 27, 2002, 116 Stat. 112).	30101 note
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431 note (Pub. L. 96-187, title III, §301, Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1368).	30101 note
431 note (Pub. L. 93-443, title IV, §410, Oct. 15, 1974, 88 Stat. 1304).	30101 note
431 note (Pub. L. 92-225, title IV, §408, formerly §406, Feb. 7, 1972, 86 Stat. 20).	30101 note
431 note (Pub. L. 107-155, §1(a), Mar. 27, 2002, 116 Stat. 81).	10101 note
431 note (Pub. L. 96-187, Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1339).	10101 note
431 note (Pub. L. 94-283, §1, May 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 475).	10101 note
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431 note (Pub. L. 92-225, Feb. 7, 1972, 86 Stat. 3).	10101 note
431 note (Pub. L. 96-187, title III, §303, Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1368).	30101 note
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431 note (Pub. L. 96-187, title III, §302, Jan. 8, 1980, 93 Stat. 1368).	30101 note
432	30102
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434 note (Pub. L. 106-58, title VI, §641(b), Sept. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 477).	30104 note
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437g	30109
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437g note (Pub. L. 110-433, §1(c), Oct. 16, 2008, 122 Stat. 4971).	30109 note
437g note (Pub. L. 107-155, title III, §312(b), Mar. 27, 2002, 116 Stat. 106).	30109 note
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1971 note (Pub. L. 109-246, §1, July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 577).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 102-344, §1, Aug. 26, 1992, 106 Stat. 921).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 99-410, §1, Aug. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 924).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 97-205, §1, June 29, 1982, 96 Stat. 131).	10101 note
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1971 note (Pub. L. 86-449, §1, May 6, 1960, 74 Stat. 86).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 85-315, pt. V, §161, Sept. 9, 1957, 71 Stat. 638).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 89-110, §1, Aug. 6, 1965, 79 Stat. 437).	10101 note
1971 note (Act Aug. 9, 1955, ch. 656, §1, 69 Stat. 584).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 94-203, §1, Jan. 2, 1976, 89 Stat. 1142).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 98-435, §1, Sept. 28, 1984, 98 Stat. 1678).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 103-31, §1, May 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 77).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 86-449, title VII, §701, May 6, 1960, 74 Stat. 92).	10101 note
1971 note (Pub. L. 98-473, title I, §101(j), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 1963).	10101 note
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1973ff note (Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title XVI, §1605, Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1277).	20301 note
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Subtitle I—Voting Rights

CHAPTER 101—GENERALLY

Sec.	
10101.	Voting rights.
10102.	Interference with freedom of elections.

§ 10101. Voting rights

(a) **Race, color, or previous condition not to affect right to vote; uniform standards for voting qualifications; errors or omissions from papers; literacy tests; agreements between Attorney General and State or local authorities; definitions**

(1) All citizens of the United States who are otherwise qualified by law to vote at any election by the people in any State, Territory, district, county, city, parish, township, school district, municipality, or other territorial subdivision, shall be entitled and allowed to vote at all such elections, without distinction of race, color, or previous condition of servitude; any constitution, law, custom, usage, or regulation of any State or Territory, or by or under its authority, to the contrary notwithstanding.

(2) No person acting under color of law shall—

(A) in determining whether any individual is qualified under State law or laws to vote in any election, apply any standard, practice, or procedure different from the standards, practices, or procedures applied under such law or laws to other individuals within the same county, parish, or similar political subdivision who have been found by State officials to be qualified to vote;

(B) deny the right of any individual to vote in any election because of an error or omission on any record or paper relating to any application, registration, or other act requisite to voting, if such error or omission is not material in determining whether such individual is qualified under State law to vote in such election; or

(C) employ any literacy test as a qualification for voting in any election unless (i) such test is administered to each individual and is conducted wholly in writing, and (ii) a certified copy of the test and of the answers given by the individual is furnished to him within twenty-five days of the submission of his request made within the period of time during which records and papers are required to be retained and preserved pursuant to title III of the Civil Rights Act of 1960 [52 U.S.C. 20701 et seq.]: *Provided, however*, That the Attorney General may enter into agreements with appropriate State or local authorities that preparation, conduct, and maintenance of such tests in accordance with the provisions of applicable State or local law, including such special provisions as are necessary in the preparation, conduct, and maintenance of such tests for persons who are blind or otherwise physically handicapped, meet the purposes of this subparagraph and constitute compliance therewith.

(3) For purposes of this subsection—

(A) the term “vote” shall have the same meaning as in subsection (e) of this section;

(B) the phrase “literacy test” includes any test of the ability to read, write, understand, or interpret any matter.

(b) **Intimidation, threats, or coercion**

No person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, shall intimidate, threaten, coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce