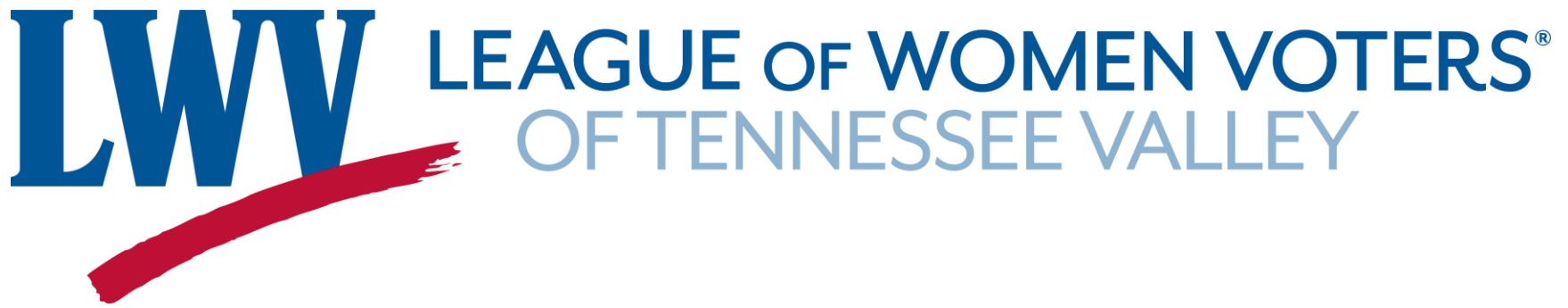


Own Your Vote in 2022

Contact us at voter-services@lwvtnv.org

Agenda

- Why are Local Elections Important?
- For the People Act
- Voter Rights Restoration
- Voting in 2022



Local Elections

Local Elections Matter...

News

Rubber bullets, tear gas, pepper spray: What happened in Huntsville through the eyes of protesters

Updated Jun 08, 2020; Posted Jun 08, 2020



Trash Pandas didn't make \$1 million payment to Madison City for 2020, working with auditor to make it right



What
Local
Issues
Impact
You?

Decatur Sweetwater deal in jeopardy

November 24, 2014 at 8:12 PM CST - Updated July 21 at 3:57 AM



The Alabama Department of Transportation will rescind a \$24.5 million road deal with the City of Decatur if the Sweetwater Development falls through.

DECATUR, AL (WAFF) - The Alabama Department of Transportation will rescind a \$24.5 million road deal with the City of Decatur if the Sweetwater Development falls through.

The state previously agreed to put in an overpass across Highway 20 and attach it to phase one of the development. The project was to be anchored by a Bass Pro Shop. The news comes days after the developer [filed a suit against the landowner](#) over a financial dispute and validity of the deal.



NEWS

Madison County not backing down in battle over Confederate monument removal

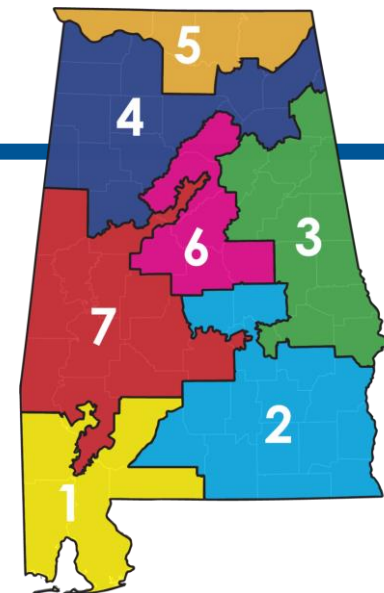


Why Local Elections Matter

- Local Government decisions directly impact your life
 - Law Enforcement
 - Critical Services: roads, utilities, etc.
 - School Quality
- Local Policies are testbeds for Federal Policies
 - Massachusetts modeled Affordable Care Act
- Local Actions have Federal Implications
 - Shelby vs. Holder
 - State Laws designed to challenge Roe vs. Wade
- Local Candidates are the Pipeline to Higher Office
- Your Vote really counts
 - 1 in 5 voters participate in local elections

Redistricting!!!

- Starts after the 2020 census reapportions representatives based on population
- **Alabama may lose a district**
- Process
 - State Legislature draws congressional and state legislative districts
 - Must be approved in the first legislative session following Census
 - No deadline
 - Governor may veto
- **District lines must be contiguous and follow county lines** except where necessary to comply with other legal requirements
- In 2000, the legislative committee charged with redistricting adopted **non-binding guidelines**
 - that [congressional] districts be **contiguous**,
 - **reasonably compact**, follow county lines where possible,
 - and **maintain communities of interest** to the extent feasible
 - Also the committee agreed to “attempt to **avoid contests between incumbents**.”



Once a
Decade
Chance
to
Change

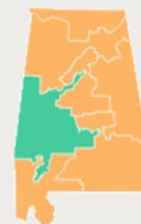
https://ballotpedia.org/Redistricting_in_Alabama

Alabama Gerrymandering

Breaking down Alabama's current map by race

The racial or ethnic makeup of each district and each district's likelihood of being represented by a member of a racial or ethnic minority, based on election results since 2006

WHITE AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISPANIC/LATINO ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER OTHER

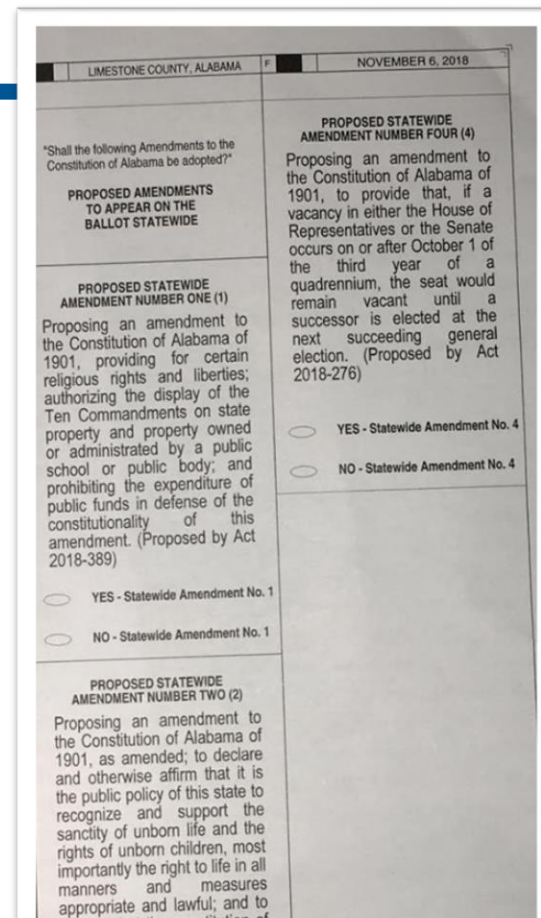


DISTRICT	MAJORITY RACE	SHARE OF POPULATION BY RACE			CHANCE OF BEING REPRESENTED BY A ...		
		0%	50%	100%	MINORITY MEMBER	DEMOCRAT	REPUBLICAN
1st	White				9%	<1%	>99%
2nd	White				10%	<1%	>99%
3rd	White				6%	<1%	>99%
4th	White				<1%	<1%	>99%
5th	White				3%	<1%	>99%
6th	White				1%	<1%	>99%
7th	African-American				95%	>99%	<1%

<https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/redistricting-maps/alabama/>

Alabama Ballot Amendments

- The 1901 Constitution **retains authority at the state level** (Dillon Law State), unless specifically delegated.
- **Municipalities and Counties have no authority** except what has been specifically provided by the 1901 Alabama Constitution
- Changes to the AL Constitution are included as Amendments on the ballot which must be voted on by all Alabamians.
- County-specific ballot amendments are only voted on by citizens of that county



YOU NEED TO GET SMART ABOUT BALLOT AMENDMENTS!
They Can Have Long Lasting and Significant Impacts

Offices on the Ballot in 2022

- **FEDERAL**
 - U.S. Senate (1 seat)
 - U.S. House of Representatives (all seats)
- **STATE**
 - Governor
 - Lt. Governor
 - Attorney General
 - State Auditor
 - Secretary of State
 - State Treasurer
 - Commission of Agriculture and Industries
 - Public Service Commissioner (2 seats)
 - Supreme Court — Associate Justice (2 seats)
 - State Board of Education (4 seats; District 2, 4, 6, 8)
 - Circuit Court Judges (various seats)
 - District Court Judges (various seats)

[https://ballotpedia.org/Alabama state executive official elections, 2022](https://ballotpedia.org/Alabama_state_executive_official_elections,_2022)

On the Ballot 2022 Madison County

- Circuit Court Judge
 - Place 1
- District Court Judge
 - Place 2
- District Attorney
- Sheriff
- County Board of Education
 - District 4 & 5
- Coroner

<https://www.madisoncountyvotes.com/elections-information/offices-up-for-election/#OfficesUpForElection>

On the Ballot 2022 Limestone County

- Circuit Court Judge
 - Place 1 & Place 2, Presiding
- District Court Judge
 - Place 1 & Place 2
- District Attorney
- County Commission
 - Commission Chairman
 - District 1
- Sheriff
- Revenue Commissioner
- Coroner
- Board of Education
 - Districts 1, 2 & 3

<https://www.votelimestone.com/next-election-dates/>

On the Ballot 2022 Morgan County

- District Attorney
- County Commission
 - Commission Chairman
 - Districts 1 & 2
- Sheriff
- Coroner
- Board of Education
 - Districts 4 & 7

<https://www.morgancountyelections.com/election-information/offices-up-for-election/#TermofOffice>

Important dates for 2022 Elections

- **PRIMARY ELECTION – May 24, 2022**
 - Candidates may begin fundraising – May 24, 2021
 - Candidates must declare candidacy – NLT January 28, 2022 5:00PM
 - Parties must certify candidates – NLT March 3, 2022 5:00PM
 - Last day to appoint poll workers – May 9, 2022
- **PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION (IF NECESSARY) – JUNE 21, 2022**
 - Last day to appoint poll workers – June 6, 2022
- **GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 8, 2022**
 - Candidates not participating in primaries may begin fundraising -- November 8, 2021
 - Independent and minor/3rd party file for ballot access– NLT May 24, 2022 5:00PM
 - Last day to appoint poll workers – October 24, 2022

2022 Election is Already Underway

<https://www.sos.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/election-2022/AdminCalendar2022.pdf>

For the People Act

Take Action: Tell the Senate to Support S1!

- The For the People Act is the democracy reform bill the American people want and deserve. This legislation will **put power back into the hands of American voters** by making voting easier and more accessible and by modernizing future elections.
- Over the last two years, we saw the bill pass the House of Representatives, but get stalled at the Senate. **But we cannot let this happen again.**
- The House has just passed the For the People Act again - **it is now time for the Senate to fulfill their duty for our democracy.** The For the People Act addresses some of the most pressing issues facing our democracy by:
 - Restore the Voting Rights Act;
 - Modernizing our voter registration system;
 - Restoring voting rights to formerly-incarcerated individuals;
 - Curbing partisan gerrymandering; and
 - Making campaign contributions more transparent

<https://tinyurl.com/2kjah7kf>

HR1/S1 For the People Act

- This bill addresses
 - voter access,
 - election integrity and security,
 - campaign finance,
 - and ethics for the three branches of government.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-btextill/1/>

HR1/S1 Voter Access

- Specifically, the bill **expands voter registration** (e.g., automatic and same-day registration) and voting access (e.g., vote-by-mail and early voting). It **also limits removing voters from voter rolls**.
- The bill requires states to establish **independent redistricting commissions** to carry out congressional redistricting.

HR1/S1 Election Integrity and Security

- Additionally, the bill sets forth provisions related to election security, including
 - **sharing intelligence** information with state election officials,
 - supporting states in **securing their election systems**,
 - **developing a national strategy** to protect U.S. democratic institutions,
 - establishing in the legislative branch the **National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions**,
 - and other provisions to **improve the cybersecurity** of election systems.

HR1/S1 Campaign Finance

- Further, the bill addresses campaign finance, including
 - expanding the **prohibition on campaign spending by foreign nationals,**
 - requiring **additional disclosure** of campaign-related fundraising and spending,
 - requiring **additional disclaimers** regarding certain political advertising,
 - and establishing an **alternative campaign funding system** for certain federal offices.

HR1/S1 Ethics

- The bill addresses **ethics in all three branches** of government, including by requiring
 - **a code of conduct** for Supreme Court Justices,
 - **prohibiting** Members of the House from serving on the board of a for-profit entity,
 - and establishing **additional conflict-of-interest and ethics provisions** for federal employees and the White House.
- The bill requires the President, the Vice President, and certain candidates for those offices to **disclose 10 years of tax returns.**

Voter Rights Restoration in Alabama

Felony Related Disenfranchisement

2016 Estimates of Disenfranchisement:

- 286,266 people disenfranchised → 7.62% of the state population
- 143,924 African Americans disenfranchised → 15.11% of total state AA population
- Black people account for more than half of all disenfranchised Alabamians

Why are So Many Disenfranchised?

- The constitution says **you can lose your right to vote if you're convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude.**
- “Because there was **no codified list** or state law that said these are the crime for which you lose your right to vote, there was arbitrary application among the different registrar’s office,” said Shay Farley, Policy Council, Southern Poverty Law Center [SPLC].
- **Meaning up until this point, a felon’s right to vote varied county by county.**

The 2017 Moral Turpitude Act Fixes this Problem!

2017 Definition of Moral Turpitude Act

The Act limits the disqualifying convictions to around 40 crimes The list:

- Does not include **any drug-related** crimes except trafficking.
- Does **not include many 3rd degree** convictions (like burglary 3rd)
- Does not include crimes prosecuted under the youthful offender statute.
- Does not include many white collar crimes, like fraud and embezzlement.
- Could re-enfranchise ~139k citizens.
- 72% of unregistered Alabamians w/ criminal convictions did not know that the law had changed

Email voter-services@lwvtnv.org for help or info!

Voting in 2022

How to Register – Pick One: Online or on Paper

- Do you have an **Unexpired Alabama Drivers License or Non-Driver ID** (issued by the Alabama DMV)?
- **YES → You can register on line**
 - Go to http://bit.ly/AL_Online_Voter_Reg
 - **COMPLETE ALL THE REQUIRED FIELDS** or it will not submit
 - You will immediately receive a confirmation number and a confirmation/receipt emails
- **NO → You need to mail in the paper form**
 - Download form at http://bit.ly/Fillable_VR_Form
 - **YOU WON'T BE REGISTERED:** If your application is illegible, unsigned or incomplete
 - **IF THERE IS A PROBLEM:** You should get an application to correct by mail
 - You will need to have the last 4 digits of your social Security Number

How Do I Check My Registration Status? And other good stuff

<https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/VoterView>

ALABAMA Secretary of State | X +

← → ↺ ↻ https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview 90% ... ☆

Am I Registered?

Registration Information

Confirm your registration status, ballot status, polling location, and address.

[Not yet registered?](#)

First Name

First Name

Last Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

Month Day Year

☐ I'm not a robot

reCAPTCHA Privacy - Terms

Look Up

What is the status of my absentee ballot?

What are my Districts?

Where do I Vote?

Polling Place Search

Find your polling station for upcoming elections using your address. (ex. 123 MAIN STREET SOUTH, ALEXANDER CITY, 35010)

Enter your residential location

View Locations

Some Ways You Can Make A Difference!

- **Maintain your Voter registration! Keep it current whenever you move.**
- **Help others to get registered!**
- **Be informed, do your homework, and talk to others about the candidates and the ballot amendments/issues.**
- **Remind others about voter registration/absentee ballot deadlines before upcoming elections!**
- **Make sure you develop a voting plan.**
 - Know where your polling place is located.
 - If your Drivers license is close to expiring, get started with renewal ASAP!
 - If you are going to be unable to get to your polling place on election day, get an absentee ballot.
- **Help family and friends make their voting plans too!**
- **Give someone a ride to the polls.**
- **Take your children, friends, and family with you to the polls.**
- **ALWAYS VOTE IN EVERY ELECTION.**