



HOWARD MARKLEIN

STATE SENATOR • 17TH SENATE DISTRICT

Capitol Update

By Senator Howard Marklein

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Do You Know What You Need To Do To Vote?

Election Day is Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Election Day is nearly upon us and now is the time to prepare to cast your ballot. Following are a couple of clarifications and tips to help new and seasoned voters get ready to vote:

Confirm Your Voter Registration – Visit <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/RegisterToVote> and search by your name and birthdate to confirm your voter registration information is accurate.

Register to Vote – You can register to vote at the polls on election day or prior to election day through November 4, 2016 at your municipal clerk's office. To register to vote, you will need to bring proof of residence, such as your driver's license or state ID card, a property tax bill, a residential lease, a utility bill, etc. Wisconsin law requires 10 days of residence to register at a specific address.

Early Voting – Now through November 4, 2016, you can "early vote" in Wisconsin via the In-Person Absentee voting process. Voters may request and vote with an absentee ballot in-person in their municipal clerk's office. Office hours vary by municipality. Please contact your municipal clerk for absentee voting hours.

Absentee Voting – The deadline to request for an absentee ballot to be mailed to you is November 3, 2016. All voters in Wisconsin can request an absentee ballot be mailed to them for any reason. Voters must be registered before they can request an absentee ballot. Confirm your registration here: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/RegisterToVote> and request an absentee ballot or contact your municipal clerk for more information. Absentee ballots must be received by your municipal clerk by 8 p.m. on November 8, 2016.

Find Your Polling Place – Visit <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/FindMyPollingPlace> and enter your residential address to determine your polling place for in person, election day voting.

Bring an ID to Vote - you will need to bring photo identification to vote. For a full overview of the photo ID requirement, please visit the Elections Commission website: <http://www.gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/photo-id>

The following forms of photo ID are acceptable for voting purposes, and can be unexpired or expired after the date of the most recent general election (currently, the November 4, 2014 election):

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card or driver license without a photo issued under the religious exemption
- Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. passport
- An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin (May be used even if expired before the most recent general election.)
- A photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college that contains date of issuance, signature of student, and an expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. Also, the university or college ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment. (May be used even if expired before the most recent general election.)

The following forms of photo IDs are also acceptable for voting purposes, but must be unexpired:

- **NEW: A veteran's photo identification card issued by the Veterans Health Administration of the federal Department of Veterans Affairs**
- A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented
- A driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 45 days)
- An identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 45 days)
- A temporary identification card receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT through the Identification Petition Process (IDPP) (valid for 180 days)
- A citation or notice of intent to revoke or suspend a Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license that is dated within 60 days of the date of the election.

There are some exceptions to the photo ID requirement for military absentee, people who cannot leave their residence indefinitely and for religious reasons. For more information on these exceptions, please visit: <http://bringit.wisconsin.gov/are-there-exceptions-new-law>

Get a Free Wisconsin Identification Card - If you do not have any of the IDs mentioned in these lists, please make plans to visit a Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office to request a free Wisconsin Identification Card for the purposes of voting.

Most people should bring a certified birth certificate, a Social Security card and a utility bill or cell phone bill for the required documentation necessary to get an ID. However, if you do not have one of these items, there are other acceptable documents. The DMV's requirements fall into four categories:

- Proof of Name and Date of Birth – documents such as birth certificates, current US passport, valid foreign passport, Certificate of Naturalization and more.
- Proof of Identity – documents such as Social Security Card, Military Discharge papers, US Government and Military Dependent ID card, Certified Marriage Certificate, Judgement of Divorce and more.
- Proof of Citizenship or Legal Status – documents such as US state or local government-issued birth certificate, US Certificate of Citizenship and more.
- Proof of Wisconsin Residency – documents such as utility bill, cell phone bill, bank account statement, employee photo ID from a current employer, paycheck stub, hunting or fishing license and more.
- For a full list of valid documentation, please visit <http://bringit.wisconsin.gov/how-do-i-get-free-state-id-card>

For a list of the DMV locations, visit: <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/online-srvcs/find-dmv/default.aspx>

Preview Your Ballot, Do Your Homework, Study the Candidates – spend some time digging into true facts of the election and review the candidates at every level of the ballot. If you are not sure who is on your ballot, visit <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/PreviewMyBallot> to preview your ballot.

For more information and to connect with me, visit my website <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/17/marklein> and subscribe to my weekly E-Update by sending an email to Sen.Marklein@legis.wisconsin.gov. Do not hesitate to call 800-978-8008 if you have input, ideas or need assistance with any state-related matters.

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