NVRA Overview

Trey Grayson | April 23, 2021
What is the NVRA?
NVRA

Stands for the National Voter Registration Act of 1993

aka Motor Voter Law

You probably have heard of it by this name
President Clinton’s first bill

• NVRA was the first bill signed by President Bill Clinton upon taking office in 1993
• US Senator Wendell Ford (D-KY) was prime sponsor
  • Had worked on it for years
• In 1992, Clinton defeated George H. W. Bush, and Democrats won both chambers
What does the NVRA do?
States required to offer voter registration and rules governing how to offer that assistance

- DMV
- Certain state and local agencies
  - Any offices that administer public assistance programs such as: the SNAP, WIC, TANF, Medicaid, SCHIP or state public assistance programs.
  - Any office that provides state-funded services to individuals with disabilities, include offices providing vocational rehabilitation, transportation, job training, rehabilitation, or independent-living services.
  - Other locations such as hospitals and other health care facilities.
- By Mail

States must follow voter registration rules

- Dates governing activity
- Removal process
  - Inactive voter process
  - Death, disability, ineligibility, request of voter, change of residence
  - But not merely for failure to vote!
- Must establish program to maintain accurate and current voter registration lists
Do all states follow NVRA?
NVRA Coverage

44 states and DC must follow NVRA in federal elections

• These states extended NVRA rules to all elections

Six states are exempt

• ID, MN, NH, ND, WI & WY
• In 1994, they either offered same day registration or didn’t have voter registration
• Must keep those policies in effect
Can hospitals and other health care facilities register voters?
Yes!

Thanks to NVRA
Let’s learn how from some experts