

# **BARRIERS TO THE BALLOT:**

## **RESTRICTIVE VOTING PROCEDURES IN 2016**



#### **PHOTO ID**

Up to 11 percent of Americans, more than 21 million people, do not have a government-issued photo ID. This includes 25 percent of eligible African American voters, 16 percent of Latinos and just 8 percent of white voters.

#### **STATES**

Alabama Indiana Kansas Mississippi New Hampshire North Carolina North Dakota Rhode Island South Carolina

Tennessee Texas Virginia Wisconsin



### PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

 Few naturalized citizens are white. About 32 percent are Latino, another 32 percent are Asian and 9.8 percent are African American.

-		-
	4 I	6

Alabama Arizona Georgia

Kansas Tennessee



#### **CROSSCHECK**

Crosscheck is a database developed by Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach that compares voter information from various databases among states, resulting in allegations of being registered in more than one state.

- Greg Palast of Al Jazeera said Crosscheck has put 1 in 7 African Americans, 1 in 8 Asian Americans, 1 in 8 Latino voters and 1 in 11 white voters at risk of being unlawfully purged from the voting rolls.
- Crosscheck impacts voters who move. According to a 2008 study by the Pew Research Center, 48 percent
  of Latinos moved during the previous five years, compared to only 27 percent of whites. Latinos also
  reported they were 43 percent more likely to move in the next five years, compared to 35 percent of
  whites. Latinos, African Americans and Asian Americans have the highest moving rates in the country.

#### **STATES**

Alaska Arizona Arkansas Colorado Georgia Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Massachusetts Michigan Mississippi Missouri Nebraska Nevada North Carolina Ohio Oklahoma Pennsylvania South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee Virginia Washington



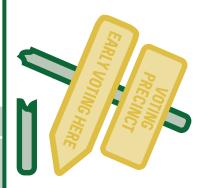
# MOVING, CLOSING & CONSOLIDATING POLLING PLACES

- Studies show that barriers to casting a ballot (e.g. increasing travel time to voting sites, making voting sites inaccessible by public transportation) depress voter turnout, especially for voters of color, due to socioeconomic disparities.
- During Arizona's primary election on March 22, 2016, election officials in Maricopa County where voters of color comprise 40 percent of the voting population cut the number of polling places by 70 percent since 2012, decreasing from 200 to only 60. Voters waited up to five hours to cast their ballots and parking lots became dangerously congested. Phoenix, a city with a majority of people of color, had approximately one poll per 108,000 residents, however that figure was significantly more favorable in predominantly white communities such as Cave Creek/Carefree (one poll per 8,500 residents) and Paradise Valley (one poll per 13,000 residents).

#### STATES

Has occurred in Arizona, Florida, Georgia and North Carolina; likely to occur in any state.

#### **CUTS TO EARLY VOTING**



- Nearly one-third of Americans voted early in the last two presidential elections.
- In the South, African Americans voted early in-person at a rate of 41 percent, as compared to approximately 35 percent of white voters.
- In the South, African American usage of early inperson voting nearly tripled between the 2004 and 2008 presidential elections, and doubled between the 2006 and 2010 midterm elections.

#### **STATES**

Florida Georgia Nebraska North Carolina Ohio Tennessee Wisconsin

#### FELONY DISENFRANCHISEMENT



- A striking 5.85 million Americans are prohibited from voting due to laws that disenfranchise persons with former felony convictions. These policies disproportionately impact communities of color due to racial disparities in the criminal justice system.
- More than 7 percent of African American adults (or 1 out of 13) cannot vote due to a prior felony conviction. This rate is four times greater than the disenfranchisement rate for non-African Americans, which is of 1.8 percent (or 1 out of 56).

#### **STATES**

Most states in the country have some form of restriction on voting for persons with prior felony convictions, including Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, South Dakota and West Virginia.

# DMV CLOSURES IN VOTER ID STATES



- Last year, Alabama closed 31 driver's license-issuing offices (which issue the most common form of photo ID needed to vote under state law). The DMVs were concentrated in Alabama's "Black Belt" rural counties with large African American populations, high poverty rates, little to no public transportation and in which African American voters comprise the majority of the electorate.
- Every county in which African Americans make up more than 75 percent of registered voters will see its driver's license-issuing office closed.

#### STATES

Has occurred in Alabama; may also occur in other states with voter ID.



# PROHIBITING THIRD PARTIES FROM SUBMITTING VOTERS' EARLY BALLOTS

In March 2016, Arizona enacted a law that prohibits third parties from turning in early ballots on behalf of voters unless they meet a narrow list of exceptions, such as being a relative, caregiver, or house hold member. This drastically limits the ability of local grassroots organizations to help voters of color turn in their ballots.

#### **STATES**

Arizona