

SB 3 Voter ID

Background and Arguments for Support/Opposition

Voting is a constitutional right of every U.S. citizen (without a felony conviction). Existing election law requires that voters present identification the first time they vote as well as when they register to vote by mail. As of January 2025, 36 states have laws requesting or requiring voters to show some form of identification at the polls.

Supportive Arguments

- Requiring identification at the polls prevents fraud and will begin to rebuild confidence in our electoral system.
- In 2021, Franklin & Marshall College conducted a poll and found that a large majority of Pennsylvania voters (74% of respondents) support strengthening the state's voter ID requirements.
- You need to provide ID to buy alcohol and nicotine products, to enter a casino or federal building – why not to vote?

Opposition Arguments

- Disenfranchises voters and makes voting less accessible, especially for lower-income electors, as they are statistically less likely to possess the required forms of identification.
- It doesn't help as in-person voter impersonation is rare. The Brennan Center reports that the rate of in-person voter impersonation is only .00004% of all ballots cast.
- May violate constitutional protections by placing undue burdens on the right to vote.