
Louisiana

*Help America Vote Act
(HAVA) Complaint
Process Guide*

Provided by

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State Guide to HAVA & Election Complaint Process

This is a guide to your state's laws relating to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and other election related complaints.

The statutes/codes cited in this guide may not be the most recent version. States may have more current or accurate information. We make no warranties or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in the individual state guides or the information linked to on the state site.

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What is the Help America Vote Act (HAVA)?

[Link to HAVA Statute](#)

[Link to Election Assistance Commission](#)

According to the EAC.gov website:

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 was passed by the United States Congress to make sweeping reforms to the nation's voting process. HAVA addresses improvements to voting systems and voter access that were identified following the 2000 election. HAVA mandates that EAC test and certify voting equipment, maintain the National Voter Registration form and administer a national clearinghouse on elections that includes shared practices, information for voters and other resources to improve elections.

HAVA creates new mandatory minimum standards for states to follow in several key areas of election administration. The law provides funding to help states meet these new standards, replace voting systems and improve election administration. HAVA also established the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to assist the states regarding HAVA compliance and to distribute HAVA funds to the states. EAC is also charged with creating voting system guidelines and operating the federal government's first voting system certification program. EAC is also responsible for maintaining the National Voter Registration form, conducting research, and administering a national clearinghouse on elections that includes shared practices, information for voters and other resources to improve elections. HAVA requires that the states implement the following new programs and procedures:

- Provisional Voting
- Voting Information
- Updated and Upgraded Voting Equipment
- Statewide Voter Registration Databases
- Voter Identification Procedures
- Administrative Complaint Procedures

How do I file a HAVA complaint?

[Link to HAVA Complaint Process](#)

[Link to Form](#)

All official complaints concerning non-compliance with HAVA legislation should be reported to the state board of election supervisors by forwarding the complaint to the secretary of state's office utilizing the [Help America Vote Act \(HAVA\) Complaint Form](#) (HAVA-COM).

How do I file a non-HAVA election complaint?

[Link to Process](#)

The Elections Compliance Unit, as part of the Louisiana Secretary of State's Office, is charged with the investigation and reporting of matters involving violations of the Louisiana election code. The unit is composed of law enforcement officers with statewide jurisdiction. The unit conducts investigations that involve voter fraud, vote buying and voter intimidation during early voting, absentee by mail voting and election day voting. In addition, the unit also investigates allegations of persons providing false or misleading information to a registrar or to a commissioner during the registration or voting process.

During early voting and on election day, electioneering complaints should be brought to the attention of the commissioners who are working at the various precincts. The commissioners, along with local law enforcement, can address any problem areas.

Complaints that may involve violations of the election code, including but not necessarily limited to those areas listed above, should be reported to the unit at 1.800.722.5305.

Who can I contact regarding an election related complaint?

State Board of Election Supervisors	
Physical Address:	8585 Archives Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Mailing Address:	State Board of Election Supervisors P.O. Box 94125 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
Phone Number:	225-287-7477
Fax Number:	225-922-1180
E-mail Webform:	E-mail Webform link
Online Contact:	https://www.sos.la.gov/ ElectionsAndVoting/ContactUs/Pages/ default.aspx

Secretary of State, Election Compliance Unit	
Mailing Address:	Louisiana Secretary of State Election Compliance Unit P.O. Box 94125 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
Phone Number:	800-722-5305
Fax Number:	225-925-4771
E-mail Webform:	E-mail Webform link