
Maine

Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Complaint Process Guide

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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.

This guide was last updated on 03/06/2024.

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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](#)

In compliance with section 402 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the Secretary of State has also established an administrative complaint procedure to resolve alleged violations of Title III of HAVA. The new process established by rule is intended to supplement, not substitute for, the more expedient process of resolving election complaints informally by communicating directly with local or state election officials. Individuals wishing to file a complaint under the administrative complaint procedure must complete the [Administrative Complaint Procedure Complaint Form](#).

How do I file a non-HAVA election complaint?

[Link to Process](#)

Any individual with a question regarding the conduct of elections in Maine, may contact the clerk or registrar of voters in their municipality to either obtain election information or make a complaint about an election issue. Many questions or complaints are resolved at the local level. Individuals may also direct inquiries and complaints to the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office at cec.elections@maine.gov or 207-624-7650.

Who can I contact regarding an election related complaint?

Department of the Secretary of State	
Physical Address:	Elections Division Department of the Secretary of State Burton M. Cross Building 111 Sewall Street, 4th Floor Augusta, ME 04333
Mailing Address:	Elections Division Department of the Secretary of State 101 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0101
Phone Number:	207-624-7650
Fax Number:	207-287-5428
E-mail:	cec.elections@maine.gov
Municipal Clerks:	https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/munic.html

Office of the Maine Attorney General	
Mailing Address:	6 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333
Phone Number:	207-626-8800
E-mail:	attorney.general@maine.gov