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# Louisiana

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

*Provided by*



**Disclaimer:** 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 this guide or the information linked to on the state site.

*This guide was last updated on 03/01/2026.*

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## What is the Help America Vote Act (HAVA)?

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According to the [Election Assistance Commission](#):

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?

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[Link to HAVA Complaint Process](#)

[Link to HAVA Complaint 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?

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[Link to non-HAVA Complaint 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?

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### State Board of Election Supervisors

**Physical Address:**

State Board of Election Supervisors  
8585 Archives Avenue  
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

**Email Webform:**

[E-mail Webform link](#)

**Website:**

<https://www.sos.la.gov/ElectionsAndVoting/ContactUs/Pages/default.aspx>

### Secretary of State, Elections Integrity Unit

**Mailing Address:**

Election Compliance Unit  
P.O. Box 94125  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125

**Phone Number:**

800-722-5305

**Email Webform:**

[E-mail Webform link](#)

**Online Address:**

<https://www.sos.la.gov/electionsandvoting/getinvolved/ReportElectionFraud>