



Voting Rights Checklist

VOTING RIGHTS violations in the 2004 election deprived thousands of individuals—especially people of color, retirees, people with disabilities, new citizen voters and the poor—of the chance to vote. Here's a checklist of steps you can take to make sure it doesn't happen to you in 2008.

Take Action NOW

- Register to vote.** Register immediately if you are not. Register with your local election office or online at www.myvotemyright.org.
- Check that you are registered to vote.** Check your registration and correct any errors at least ONE MONTH before registration closes.
- Reregister if you have moved or changed your name.**
- Ask your local election office about any new voting procedures** and to see a sample ballot.
- Make sure you know the location of your polling place.** Many have changed, and a vote at the wrong place may not be counted.
- Vote early or absentee** if you can do so in your community.
- Volunteer** to work at or in the polls on Election Day.

Take Action on Election Day

- Bring identification to the polls,** preferably a government-issued photo ID with your registered address.
- Ask for help from poll workers** and check posted signs if you have a question or need assistance.
- Make sure you cast a vote.** If you are in line when the polls close, you are entitled to vote and should **stay in line.**
- If you are offered a provisional ballot, ask if you may cast a regular ballot** by providing additional ID or going to another polling place. If no alternative is available or practical, cast a provisional ballot and follow up after Election Day.
- If you have a voting rights problem, talk to the chief election official or a voting rights volunteer at the polls, or call the toll-free nationwide Election Protection Hotline, 1-866-OUR-VOTE,** a project of a coalition of groups promoting voting rights, including the AFL-CIO.

For more information, contact your local or national union or the AFL-CIO Political Department, My Vote, My Right, 815 16th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006; e-mail: yourvote@afclcio.org; visit www.myvotemyright.org; or call 202-639-6220 or 1-800-952-2550.