

**SUMMARY OF FEDERAL ELECTION REFORM LEGISLATION
INTRODUCED IN THE 112TH CONGRESS**

This is a brief summary of federal election reform legislation introduced in the 112th Congress. Senate bills are listed first, in order of introduction, followed by House bills. Although the descriptions of each bill are not comprehensive, each bill summary includes hyperlinks for more information.

INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE

Bill No.: S. 111 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voting Integrity and Verification Act of 2011

Sponsors: Senator John Ensign (R-NV)

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voting Systems

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require each voting system purchased after December 31, 2012, and used in an election for federal office to produce an individual permanent paper record for each ballot that is cast.

This bill would also require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to establish a program to award cash prizes competitively to eligible persons that advance the research, development, demonstration, and application of voting systems which are specifically designed to enhance accessibility and provide independence for persons with disabilities during the voting process.

Bill No.: S. 168 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voter Fraud Prevention Act

Sponsors: Senator David Vitter (R-LA) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Registration

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prescribe standards for paid distribution of voter registration application forms and registration requirements for organizations.

This bill would also prohibit any individual from distributing, for compensation, a voter registration application form for federal elections in a state if the individual: (1) has been convicted of a felony under any state or federal law; (2) does not sign and print legibly the individual's name on the form; (3) does not provide identifying information to the proper election official; or (4) does not certify, under penalty of perjury, that he or she has not received financial compensation based on the number of voter registration application forms submitted by the individual to an election official upon completion by the applicant, and that the information provided by the individual is accurate to the best of the individual's knowledge.

Bill No.: S. 750 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Fair Elections Now Act

Sponsors: Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) and 13 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: April 6, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) eligibility and qualifying contribution requirements and benefits of fair elections financing of Senate election campaigns, (2) establishment of a Fair Elections Fund, (3) eligibility for Fund allocations, (4) contribution and expenditure requirements, (5) a public debate requirement, (6) certification of whether or not a federal election candidate is a participating candidate, (7) benefits for participating candidates, (8) 500% matching payments to candidates for certain small dollar contributions, (9) political advertising vouchers, (10) establishment of a Fair Elections Oversight Board, (11) civil penalties for violation of contribution and expenditure requirements, (12) prohibition of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee, and (13) an exception to a specified limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates for any expenditure from a qualified political party-participating candidate coordinated expenditure fund.

This bill would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to: (1) prohibit the preemption of the use of a broadcasting station by a legally qualified Senate candidate who has purchased and paid for such use, (2) revise Federal Communications Commission (FCC) authority to revoke licenses for broadcasting stations who fail to provide access to Senate candidates, and (3) revise the

formula for determining reduced broadcast rates for participating candidates in certain circumstances.

This bill would direct the FCC to initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish a standardized form to be used by broadcasting stations to record and report the purchase of advertising time by or on behalf of a candidate for nomination for election, or for election, to federal elective office.

This bill would amend FECA to: (1) empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to appeal a civil action; (2) require all designations, statements, and reports required to be filed under FECA to be filed directly with the FEC, and in computer-accessible electronic form; and (3) reduce from 48 to 24 hours after their receipt the deadline for the FEC to make designations, statements, reports, or notifications available to the public in the FEC office and on the Internet.

Bill No.: S. 1264 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Veteran Voting Support Act of 2011

Sponsors: Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) and 4 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: June 23, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Registration, Military and Overseas Voting

Description: This bill would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide mail voter registration application forms to each veteran who: (1) seeks to enroll in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care system at the time of such enrollment; and (2) is already enrolled in such system when there is a change in the veteran's enrollment status or when there is a change in the veteran's address.

This bill would also require the Secretary to accept completed application forms for transmittal to appropriate state election officials. Instructs that forms accepted at VA medical centers, community living centers, community-based outpatient centers, and domiciliaries be transmitted within ten days of acceptance, unless a completed form is accepted within five days before the last day for registration to vote in an election in which case the application shall be transmitted to the appropriate state election official within five days of acceptance.

This bill would prohibit any information relating to registering to vote or a declination to register to vote under this Act from being used for any purpose other than voter registration.

This bill would require each Director of a VA community living center, domiciliary, or medical center to provide assistance in voting by absentee ballot to

resident veterans. This bill would also require such assistance to include: (1) providing information relating to the opportunity to request an absentee ballot; (2) making available absentee ballot applications upon request, as well as assisting in completing such applications and ballots; and (3) working with local election administration officials to ensure the proper transmission of the applications and ballots.

This bill would direct the Secretary to permit nonpartisan organizations to provide voter registration information and assistance at facilities of the VA health care system.

This bill would prohibit the Secretary from banning any election administration official, whether state or local, party-affiliated or non-party affiliated, or elected or appointed, from providing voting information to veterans at any VA facility.

This bill would direct the Secretary to provide reasonable access to facilities of the VA health care system to state and local election officials for the purpose of providing nonpartisan voter registration services to individuals.

Bill No.: S. 1994 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Deceptive Practices and Voter Intimidation Prevention Act of 2011
Sponsors: Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY) and 5 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: December 14, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voter ID, Deceptive Practices, Election Day Registration

Bill No.: S. 2017 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
Short Title: Democracy Restoration Act of 2011
Sponsors: Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD) and 2 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
Date Introduced: December 16, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
Key Issues: Voting Rights Restoration
Description: This bill would declare that the right of a U.S. citizen to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied or abridged because that individual has been convicted of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, such individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. This bill would provide for enforcement and remedies for violations of this Act.

This bill would specify that: (1) nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit a state from enacting any state law that affords the right to vote in any election for federal office on terms less restrictive than those terms established by this Act; and (2) the rights and remedies established by this Act shall be in addition to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and shall not supersede, restrict, or limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

This bill would also prohibit any state, unit of local government, or other person from receiving or using any federal grant amounts to construct or improve a place of incarceration unless that person has a program to notify each U.S. citizen incarcerated in that person's jurisdiction, on release from such incarceration, of that individual's rights under this Act.

INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bill No.: H.R. 107 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Caging Prohibition Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative John Conyers (D-MI)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Caging

Description: This bill would amend the federal criminal code to prohibit state or local election officials from preventing an individual from registering or voting in any election for federal office, or from permitting a formal challenge under state law to an individual's registration status or eligibility to vote, if the basis for such decision is evidence consisting of: (1) a voter caging document or voter caging list; (2) an unverified match list; (3) an error or omission on voter application or registration documents that is not material to an individual's eligibility to vote; or (4) any other evidence so designated by the Election Assistance Commission.

Bill No.: H.R. 108 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voting Opportunity and Technology Enhancement Rights Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative John Conyers (D-MI)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Absentee Ballots, Voting Systems, Provisional Ballots, Election Resource Allocation, Election Day Registration, Purges, Early Voting, Election Day Holiday, Voter Registration, Voter ID, Impartial Election Administration, Voting Rights Restoration, Deceptive Practices, Caging

Description: This omnibus bill would provide for a variety of election reforms, including:

Absentee Ballots: This bill would permit the use of a federal write-in absentee ballot by anyone who is eligible to vote in federal elections. The voter may designate a candidate by writing in the candidate's name or write in the name of a political party (in which case, the ballot will be counted for the candidate of the political party). Abbreviations, misspellings, or other minor variations in candidate or political party names will not make a ballot invalid.

Voting Systems: This bill would mandate voter-verifiable records on all voting systems including means of verification for people with disabilities. It would also require the use of publicly available open source software on voting systems.

Provisional Ballots: This bill would require states to count provisional ballots cast at the incorrect poll sites if they are otherwise eligible.

Election Resource Allocation: This bill would require states to ensure that a minimum number of election resources such as voting machines and poll workers are allocated to poll sites.

Election Day Registration: This bill would require states to allow people to register to vote and to vote on the day of a federal election.

Purges: This bill would require states to post public notices of purges of names from the voter rolls at least 45 days before a federal election. It would also require states to mail voters notices of the intention to purge their names from the rolls.

Early Voting: This bill would require states to permit early voting at least 15 days before a federal election. It also establishes requirements for poll sites where early voting is permitted.

Election Day Holiday: This bill would make Election Day a legal public holiday beginning in 2010. It would also require a study of the impact this has on voter turnout.

Voter Registration: This bill would permit voter registration applicants to sign an affidavit attesting to citizenship and age eligibility in lieu of checking the age and citizenship boxes on a voter registration form. It would also require states to establish online voter registration.

Voter ID: This bill would add as acceptable proof of identity for in-person voting and voting by mail an executed affidavit attesting to one's identity.

Impartial Election Administration: This bill would require states to post public notices of changes in state election laws at least 15 days before federal elections. It would also require states to treat election observers in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner.

Restoring Voting Rights: This bill establishes that the right to vote in any election for federal office shall not be denied because past of conviction of a criminal offense unless, at the time of the election, the individual is serving a felony sentence in a correctional institution or facility. Individuals are required to be informed of their right to vote upon completion of their term of imprisonment.

Deceptive Practices: This bill amends the federal criminal code to prohibit deceptive practices in federal elections, modify the penalty for voter intimidation.

Caging: This bill would prohibit election officials from denying the right to vote to individuals on the basis of documents developed through voter caging and other questionable challenges.

Bill No.: H.R. 138 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Ethics in Foreign Lobbying Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit contributions and expenditures in federal elections by multicandidate political committees or separate segregated funds sponsored by foreign-controlled corporations and associations (at least 50% owned by a non-U.S. citizen or foreign national). It would set forth ownership and operating fund reporting requirements.

This bill would also prohibit a foreign national from participating in the decision-making process of any person's election-related activities (such as those of a corporation, labor organization, or political committee). It would establish within the Federal Election Commission (FEC) a clearinghouse of existing public information regarding the political activities of foreign principals and agents of foreign principals. It would also amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to: (1) revise foreign agents' supplemental reporting requirements; and (2) provide civil penalties for specified reporting violations.

Bill No.: H.R. 267 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and 15 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: DC Voting Rights

Description: This bill would provide for the treatment of the District of Columbia as a State for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 268 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce the limit on the amount of certain contributions which may be made to a candidate with respect to an election for Federal office.

Sponsors: Representative Michael Capuano (D-MA)

Date Introduced: January 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce from \$2,000 to \$1,000 the maximum amount of contributions that any person may make to any candidate with respect to election for federal office.

This bill would also require adjustment to such amount (indexing) for inflation after 2014.

Bill No.: H.R. 269 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Leadership PAC Limitation Act

Sponsors: Representative Michael Capuano (D-MA)

Date Introduced: January 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit the conversion of leadership PAC funds to personal use.

Bill No.: H.R. 359 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions.

Sponsors: Representative Tom Cole (R-OK) and 20 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 20, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance

Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to terminate: (1) the taxpayer election to designate \$3 of income tax liability for financing of presidential

election campaigns; (2) the Presidential Election Campaign Fund; and (3) the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account.

This bill would also require the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer all amounts in the Presidential Election Campaign Fund after its termination to the general fund of the Treasury, to be used only for deficit reduction.

Bill No.:	H.R. 406 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	To amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election for Federal office to designate an individual who will be authorized to disburse funds of the authorized campaign committees of the candidate in the event of the death of the candidate.
Sponsors:	Representative Walter Jones (R-NC) and 1 Cosponsor [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	January 24, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Campaign Finance
Description:	<p>This bill would amends the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to permit candidates for election to federal office to: (1) designate an individual for each of a candidate's authorized campaign committees who will be authorized to disburse funds of the committee in the event of the candidate's death; and (2) designate another individual to carry out the responsibilities of the designated individual in the event of the death or incapacity of the designated individual or the designated individual's unwillingness to carry out the responsibilities.</p> <p>This bill would also prescribe procedures for filing and revoking such a designation. It would permit the filing of a designation to contain the candidate's instructions regarding the disbursement of funds.</p>

Bill No.:	H.R. 414 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Presidential Funding Act
Sponsors:	Representative David Price (D-NC) and 13 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	January 25, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Campaign Finance
Description:	This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the system of public financing for Presidential elections, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 419 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Redistricting Transparency Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Jim Cooper (D-TN) and 22 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Redistricting

Description: This bill would require states to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a process under which members of the public are informed of redistricting proposals via the Internet and have the opportunity to participate in the development of such proposals prior to their adoption.

This bill would also require each state redistricting entity to establish and maintain a public Internet site meeting specified requirements.

This bill would require the state redistricting entity to: (1) solicit the input of members of the public in its work to develop initial congressional redistricting plans for the state; and (2) post the proposed final plan on the Internet site 10 days before its adoption, as well as seven days after its adoption, together with a map, the reasons for adoption, dissenting opinions, and certain other information.

Bill No.: H.R. 423 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Member Address Privacy and Protection Act

Sponsors: Representative Joe Baca (D-CA) and 3 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 25, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Other

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require the appropriate state or local official to provide adequate technological security measures to prevent the addresses of the residences of Members of Congress from appearing on the computerized statewide voter registration lists required to be maintained by states under such Act.

This bill would also authorize a Member seeking election for public office to meet any state law requirement to provide the appropriate election official with the Member's home address by filing an affidavit with the chief election official certifying that the Member is a state resident.

Bill No.: H.R. 453 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: John Tanner Fairness and Independence in Redistricting Act

Sponsors: Representative Heath Schuler (D-NC) and 21 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 26, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Redistricting

Description: This bill would prohibit a state that has been redistricted after an apportionment from being redistricted again until after the next apportionment of Representatives, unless the state is ordered by a court to conduct such a subsequent redistricting in order to: (1) comply with the U.S. Constitution, or (2) enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This bill would also require such redistricting to be conducted through a plan developed by the independent redistricting commission established in the state, or if such plan is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan selected by the state's highest court or developed by a U.S. district court.

This bill would prescribe requirements for: (1) establishment of a state independent redistricting commission (including provisions for holding each of its meetings in public and maintaining a public Internet site), (2) development of a redistricting plan (including soliciting and considering public comments) and its submission to the state legislature (with public notice of plans at least seven days prior to such submission), (3) selection of a plan, under specified conditions, by the state's highest court or the U.S. district court for the district in which the capital of the state is located, (4) special rules for redistricting conducted under a federal court order, and (5) Election Assistance Commission payments to states for carrying out redistricting.

Bill No.: H.R. 590 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Redistricting Reform Act of 2011

Sponsors: Representative Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) and 11 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 9, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Redistricting

Description: This bill would prohibit a state that has been redistricted after an apportionment from being redistricted again until after the next apportionment of

Representatives, unless the state is ordered by a court to conduct such a subsequent redistricting in order to: (1) comply with the U.S. Constitution, or (2) enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

This bill would require such redistricting to be conducted according to: (1) a plan developed by the independent redistricting commission established in the state; or (2) if such plan is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan selected by the state's highest court or developed by a U.S. district court.

This bill would provide for: (1) establishment by each state of an independent redistricting commission; (2) development by such commission of a redistricting plan; (3) submission of the plan to, and consideration and enactment of a plan by, the state legislature; (4) selection of a plan by the state's highest court or development of a plan by the U.S. district court, under specified conditions; (5) special rules for redistricting conducted under a federal court order; (6) Election Assistance Commission payments to states for carrying out redistricting; (7) civil enforcement to carry out this Act; and (8) the right of civil action for a person who is aggrieved by a violation of this Act.

Bill No.:	H.R. 672 [VIEW BILL TEXT]
Short Title:	Election Support Consolidation and Efficiency Act
Sponsors:	Representative Gregg Harper (R-MS) and 22 Cosponsors [VIEW ALL]
Date Introduced:	February 11, 2011 [VIEW STATUS]
Key Issues:	Election Assistance Commission
Description:	<p>This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to terminate the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), the EAC Standards Board, and the EAC Board of Advisors 61 days after enactment of this Act.</p> <p>This bill would require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to perform EAC functions with respect to certain existing contracts and agreements during the transition period for winding up EAC affairs.</p> <p>This bill would transfer specified election administration functions of the EAC to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).</p> <p>This bill would replace the Standards Board and the Board of Advisors with a Guidelines Review Board to review voluntary voting system guidelines proposed by the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.</p> <p>This bill would set forth special requirements relating to the transfer of certain EAC authorities to the FEC with respect to development of such guidelines. Transfers to the FEC the EAC Office of Voting System Testing and Certification.</p>

This bill would direct the Comptroller General to: (1) study the procedures used to adopt and modify the voluntary voting system guidelines applicable to the administration of elections for federal office, and (2) develop recommendations on methods to improve such procedures.

This bill would require the FEC to: (1) study the procedures for the testing, certification, decertification, and recertification of voting system hardware and software used in federal elections, and (2) develop a recommendation on the entity best suited to oversee and carry out such procedures.

This bill would require the recommendations in both studies to take into account the needs of persons affected by such guidelines, including state and local election officials, voters with disabilities, absent military and overseas voters, and the manufacturers of voting systems.

Bill No.: H.R. 702 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to require States to delay certifying the results of regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office in order to ensure the counting of any marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters that are collected by the Presidential designee under such Act for delivery to State election officials.

Sponsors: Representative David P. Roe (R-TN) and 2 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 15, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Military and Overseas Voting

Description: This bill would amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act prohibit a state from certifying the results of a regularly scheduled election for federal office until it has counted all valid ballots of absent service member voters collected by the presidential designee and delivered to the appropriate state election officials.

This bill would also allow a state to certify such results on the later of ten days after such election or the date provided under state law.

Bill No.: H.R. 1404 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Fair Elections Now Act

Sponsors: Representative John B. Larson (D-CT) and 79 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: April 6, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This bill would amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA) with respect to: (1) candidate benefits of fair elections financing of House of Representatives election campaigns; (2) allocations to candidates from the Fair Elections Fund established by this Act; (3) 500% matching payments to candidates for certain small dollar contributions; (4) Fund allocation eligibility requirements; (5) certification of a federal election candidate as a participating candidate; (6) contribution, expenditure, and fundraising requirements; (7) a public debate requirement; (8) remission to the Fair Elections Fund of unspent funds after an election; (9) establishment of the Fair Elections Fund and of a Fair Elections Oversight Board; (10) civil penalties for violation of contribution and expenditure requirements; and (11) transfer of a portion of collected civil money penalties into the Fair Elections Fund.

This bill would prohibit: (1) use of contributions by a participating candidate for any purposes other than an election campaign, and (2) establishment of joint fundraising committees with any political committee other than a candidate's authorized committee. This bill would also prescribe a limitation on coordinated expenditures by political party committees with participating candidates.

This bill would amend FECA to empower the Federal Election Commission (FEC) to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to appeal a civil action.

This bill would require all designations, statements, and reports required to be filed under FECA to be filed: (1) directly with the FEC, and (2) in electronic form accessible by computers. This bill would also reduce from 48 hours to 24 hours after their receipt the deadline for the FEC to make designations, statements, reports, or notifications available to the public in the FEC office and on the Internet.

Bill No.: H.R. 3316 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Voter Access Protection Act

Sponsors: Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: November 2, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Registration, Voter ID

Description: This bill would prohibit election officials from requiring individuals to provide photo identification as a condition of obtaining or casting a ballot in an election for Federal office or registering to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

Bill No.: H.R. 3317 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Same Day Registration Act

Sponsors: Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: November 2, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Voter Registration

Description: This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to provide for same day registration.

Bill No.: H.R. 3463 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: To reduce Federal spending and the deficit by terminating taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns and party conventions and by terminating the Election Assistance Commission

Sponsors: Representative Gregg Harper (R-MS) and 1 Cosponsor [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: November 17, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Election Assistance Commission, Campaign Finance Reform, Voting Systems

Description: This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to terminate as of December 31, 2010, taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns. Abolishes the Presidential Election Campaign Fund and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account.

This bill would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer all amounts remaining in the Fund after enactment of this Act to the general fund of the Treasury to reduce the deficit.

This bill would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to terminate the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), the EAC Standards Board, and the EAC Board of Advisors 61 days after enactment of this Act. This bill would also require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to perform EAC functions with respect to certain existing contracts and agreements during the transition period for winding up EAC affairs.

This bill would transfer specified election administration functions of the EAC to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

This bill would replace the Standards Board and the Board of Advisors with a Guidelines Review Board to review voluntary voting system guidelines proposed by the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.

This bill would set forth special requirements relating to the transfer of certain EAC authorities to the FEC with respect to development of such guidelines.

This bill would also transfer to the FEC the EAC Office of Voting System Testing and Certification.

This bill would direct the Comptroller General to: (1) study the procedures used to adopt and modify the voluntary voting system guidelines applicable to the administration of elections for federal office, and (2) develop recommendations on methods to improve such procedures.

This bill would require the FEC to: (1) study the procedures for the testing, certification, decertification, and recertification of voting system hardware and software used in federal elections; and (2) develop a recommendation on the entity best suited to oversee and carry out such procedures.

This bill would require the recommendations in both studies to take into account the needs of persons affected by such guidelines, including state and local election officials, voters with disabilities, absent military and overseas voters, and the manufacturers of voting systems.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE

- Bill No.:** S. J. Res. 29 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]
- Short Title:** A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.
- Sponsors:** Representative Tom Udall (D-NM) and 18 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]
- Date Introduced:** November 1, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]
- Key Issues:** Campaign Finance Reform
- Description:** This amendment would grant Congress and the states the power to regulate the raising and spending of money and in kind equivalents with respect to federal and state elections, respectively.

INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 6 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States waiving the application of the first article of amendment to the political speech of corporations and other business organizations with respect to the disbursement of funds in connection with public elections and granting Congress and the States the power to establish limits on contributions and expenditures in elections for public office.

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance

Description: This amendment would waive application of the First Amendment to the political speech of any corporation, partnership, business trust, association, or other business organization with respect to the making of contributions, expenditures, or other disbursements of funds in connection with public elections.

This amendment would also grant Congress the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a federal election.

This amendment would grant a state the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a state or local election.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 7 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States waiving the application of the first article of amendment to the political speech of corporations and other business organizations with respect to the disbursement of funds in connection with public elections.

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance

Description: This amendment would waive application of the First Amendment to the political speech of any corporation, partnership, business trust, association, or other

business organization with respect to the making of contributions, expenditures, or other disbursements of funds in connection with public elections.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 8 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to limitations on the amounts of contributions and expenditures that may be made in connection with campaigns for election to public office.

Sponsors: Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) and 6 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: January 5, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would grant Congress the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a federal election.

This amendment would also grant a state the power to set limits on the amounts of contributions and expenditures with respect to candidates in a state or local election.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 25 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding presidential election voting rights for residents of all United States territories and commonwealths.

Sponsors: Representative Donna Christensen (D-VI) and 2 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 9, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Other

Description: This amendment would declare that the right of citizens of the United States to vote in the election for President and Vice President shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of residency in a U.S. territory or commonwealth.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 36 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the Electoral College and provide for the direct election of the President and Vice

President by the popular vote of all citizens of the United States regardless of place of residence.

Sponsors: Representative Jesse Jackson (D-IL) and 29 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: February 14, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Electoral College

Description: This amendment would provide for the direct popular election of the President and the Vice President.

Bill No.: H. J. Res. 78 [[VIEW BILL TEXT](#)]

Short Title: Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the authority of Congress and the States to regulate the expenditure of funds for political activity by corporations.

Sponsors: Representative Donna F. Edwards (D-MD) and 24 Cosponsors [[VIEW ALL](#)]

Date Introduced: September 12, 2011 [[VIEW STATUS](#)]

Key Issues: Campaign Finance Reform

Description: This amendment would declare that nothing in the U.S. Constitution shall prohibit Congress and the states from imposing content-neutral regulations and restrictions on the expenditure of funds for political activity by any corporation, limited liability company, or other corporate entity, including but not limited to contributions in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for public office.
