



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION  
1225 New York Ave. NW – Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005

December 14, 2007

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** EAC Commissioners

**CC:** Tom Wilkey, Peggy Sims, Julie Hodgkins, Gavin Gilmour, Jeannie Layson, Tamar Nedzar, Bryan Whitener

**FROM:** Edgardo Cortés, Election Research Specialist

**SUBJECT:** Requests for Changes to the State Instructions of the National Mail Voter Registration Form

There are currently six requests for changes to the state specific instructions of the National Mail Voter Registration Form that have been submitted to the EAC. This memo details the six requests currently awaiting action by the Commission.

**1. Rhode Island**

- a. The current state instructions for Rhode Island have the following voter eligibility requirements listed:
  - i. **“9. Signature.** To register in Rhode Island you must:
    - be a citizen of the United States
    - be a resident of Rhode Island for 30 days preceding the next election
    - be 18 years old by election day
    - be neither serving a sentence, including probation or parole, for which you were imprisoned, upon final conviction of a felony imposed on any date; nor serving any sentence, whether incarcerated or suspended, on probation or parole, upon final conviction of a felony committed after November 5, 1986
    - not have been lawfully judged to be mentally incompetent”

- b. The State of Rhode Island has requested that the voter eligibility requirements information be changed to the following:
  - i. **“9. Signature.** To register in Rhode Island you must:
    - be a citizen of the United States
    - be a resident of Rhode Island for 30 days preceding the next election
    - be 18 years old by election day
    - not be currently incarcerated in a correctional facility due to a felony conviction
    - not have been lawfully judged to be mentally incompetent”

## 2. Colorado

- a. The current state instructions for Colorado have the following mailing address:
  - i. **“Mailing address:**  
Secretary of State  
c/o Elections  
1560 Broadway, Suite 200  
Denver, CO 80202”
- b. The State of Colorado has requested that the mailing address be changed to the following:
  - i. **“Mailing address:**  
Colorado Secretary of State  
1700 Broadway, Suite 270  
Denver, Colorado 80290”

## 3. Delaware

- a. The current state instructions for Delaware have the following voter registration deadline:
  - i. **“Registration Deadline** — 20 days prior to the general election and 20 days prior to any primary election.”

- b. Delaware has requested that the voter registration deadline information be changed to the following:
  - i. **“Registration Deadline** — The 4th Saturday before a primary or general election, and 10 days before a special election.”

#### 4. New Jersey

- a. The current state instructions for New Jersey have the following voter registration deadline:
  - i. **“Registration Deadline** — 29 days before the election.”
- b. The State of New Jersey has requested that the voter registration deadline information be changed to the following:
  - i. **“Registration Deadline** — 21 days before the election.”

#### 5. Georgia

- a. The current state instructions for Georgia have the following language concerning ID number:
  - i. **“6. ID Number.** Your full social security number is requested. Your social security number will remain confidential and will not be disclosed except as required by law. The number will be used to identify and verify the identity of voters (Georgia Election Code, O.C.G.A. Ch. 21-2-219, 21-2-220, 21-2-225).”
- b. Georgia has requested that the language in this section be changed to the following:
  - i. **“6. ID Number.** Federal law requires you to provide your full GA Drivers License number or GA State issued ID number. If you do not have a GA Drivers License or GA ID you must provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. Providing your full Social Security number is optional. Your Social Security number will be kept confidential and may be used for comparison with other state agency databases for voter registration identification purposes. If you do not possess a GA Drivers License or Social Security number, a unique identifier will be provided for you.”

## 6. Arizona

- a. The current state instructions for Arizona have the following language concerning ID number:

i. **“6. ID Number.** Your completed voter registration form must contain the number of your Arizona driver license, or non-operating identification license issued pursuant to A.R.S. § 28-3165, if the license is current and valid. If you *do not have* a current and valid Arizona driver license or non-operating identification license, you must include the last four digits of your social security number if one has been issued to you. If you do not have a current and valid driver license or non-operating identification license or a social security number, please write “NONE” on the form. A unique identifying number will be assigned by the Secretary of State.”

- b. The State of Arizona has requested that the language in this section be changed to the following:

i. **“6. ID Number.** Your completed voter registration form must contain the number of your Arizona driver license, or non-operating identification license issued pursuant to A.R.S. § 28-3165, if the license is current and valid. If you do not have a current and valid Arizona driver license or non-operating identification license, you must include the last four digits of your social security number if one has been issued to you. If you do not have a current and valid driver license or non-operating identification license or a social security number, please write “NONE” on the form. A unique identifying number will be assigned by the Secretary of State.

“If this is your first time registering to vote in Arizona or you have moved to another county in Arizona, your voter registration form must also include proof of citizenship or the form will be rejected. If you have an Arizona driver license or non-operating identification license issued after October 1, 1996, this will serve as proof of citizenship and no additional documents are needed. If not, you must attach proof of citizenship to the form. Only one acceptable form of proof is needed to register to vote.

“The following is a list of acceptable documents to establish your citizenship:

- A legible photocopy of a birth certificate that verifies citizenship and supporting legal documentation (i.e. marriage certificate) if the name on the birth certificate is not the same as your current legal name

- A legible photocopy of pertinent pages of a United States passport identifying the applicant

- Presentation to the County Recorder of United States naturalization documents or the number of the certificate of naturalization in box 6 of this form

- The applicant’s Bureau of Indian Affairs Card Number, Tribal Treaty Card Number, or Tribal Enrollment Number in box 6 of this voter registration form

- A legible photocopy of a driver license or non-operating license from another state within the United States if the license indicates that the applicant has provided satisfactory proof of citizenship

- A legible photocopy of a Tribal Certificate of Indian Blood or Tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs Affidavit of Birth.

“If you need to include a photocopy of proof of citizenship, please fold the proof along with the Voter Registration Application and place both items in an envelope and mail to the address provided below.”