

WASHINGTON VOTING JUSTICE COALITION LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2023

SB 5208 MAKING ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITHOUT WA DRIVER'S LICENSES



We pride ourselves in Washington on how simple it is to become a voter, whatever your age, income, or background. However, because we require a Washington driver's license to register to vote online, voters without licenses have to go through the more complicated process of submitting a paper registration. It's time we updated our system so that all new voters can register from the convenience of their own home.

WHAT WOULD IMPROVE?

SB 5208 would update our online voter registration to allow people to register with their Social Security Number and a submitted signature, expanding access to people without Washington driver's licenses.

If we update our online voter registration to remove the driver's license requirement...

- Our voter registration process would be more accessible to people statistically less likely to have a Washington driver's license.
 - This includes young voters, Black and Latino voters, lower-income voters, voters who recently became citizens, and people who recently moved to Washington.
 - This is an important equity issue - paper registration requires more time, access to a printer, and cost of postage.
- Our state would have more regularly updated signatures from voters, reducing the amount of people who have their ballots rejected.
 - Young voters, Black and Latino voters, and voters with non-English ballots have much higher ballot rejection rates
- Our state would have a modernized system that would better serve today's voters and future generations of voters

WHO WE ARE

The Washington Voting Justice Coalition is committed to protecting and expanding voting rights across the state. We're a coalition of community-based organizations and individuals who believe that justice, participation, and the freedom to vote are the foundation of a real democracy. We believe that our vote is our instrument of change, and our tool to have a voice in our government.



Contact: info@wavotingjustice.org