

Maine Democratic Party

**Introduction to
Voter Protection**

September 19, 2024



**Voter Protection is about
ensuring that every eligible
voter can register, vote, and
have their vote counted**



Agenda for Tonight

- **Important Voter Info**
- **Maine Context**
- **Maine Dems Voter Protection Program**
- **How to Get Involved!**



Voter Registration

- *NEW!* - Maine now has **online voter registration** at Maine.gov/Vote for all Maine voters
- You'll need either:
 - A Maine driver's license or state ID; or
 - Last 4 digits of your SSN AND a photo of your signature

Welcome to the State of Maine Online Voter Registration Service

INFORMATION YOU'LL NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE

Register as a Maine Voter

Use this online service if you are a Maine resident and want to:

- Register to vote for the first time in Maine
- Provide updated information for your existing Maine voter registration
- Change your party enrollment

If you are unsure whether you meet the requirements to be a Maine voter, please click [here](#)

Maine Voter Registration

Register as a Maine Uniformed Service or Overseas Voter (UOCAVA)

Use this online service if you are a UOCAVA voter and want to:




- Register to vote for the first time in Maine
- Provide updated information for your existing Maine voter registration
- Change your party enrollment

UOCAVA voters include:

- Uniformed Service voters who are currently living away from their Maine residence
- Overseas voters who are U.S. citizens currently living outside the United States and meet Maine residency requirements

If you are unsure whether you meet the requirements to be a UOCAVA voter, please click [here](#)

Maine UOCAVA Voter Registration



Same-Day Registration

- Maine has **same-day registration**, so you can register at your polling place on Election Day.
- If you don't have all the documentation needed to register at that time, you can ask to vote a **“challenged ballot”**. Even if you are not on the voter rolls, the election workers are required to allow you to cast this vote





Absentee Ballot Requests: Now Available

Ballots can be requested at: MaineDems.org/Absentee

Ballots can be returned:

- By **mail** (allow at least one week)
- In **person** at your town office or city hall
- To your **ballot drop box** if your municipality has one

Remember to sign the back of the envelope!

Ballots must be received by 8 pm on Election Day



Maine's Context: The Good

- Maine generally has very high registration rates and turnout
- Maine laws and policies around ballot access are some of the best
 - Same-day registration
 - Online voter registration
 - No-excuse absentees
 - In-person early absentees
 - No ID voting
 - Incarcerated Voting

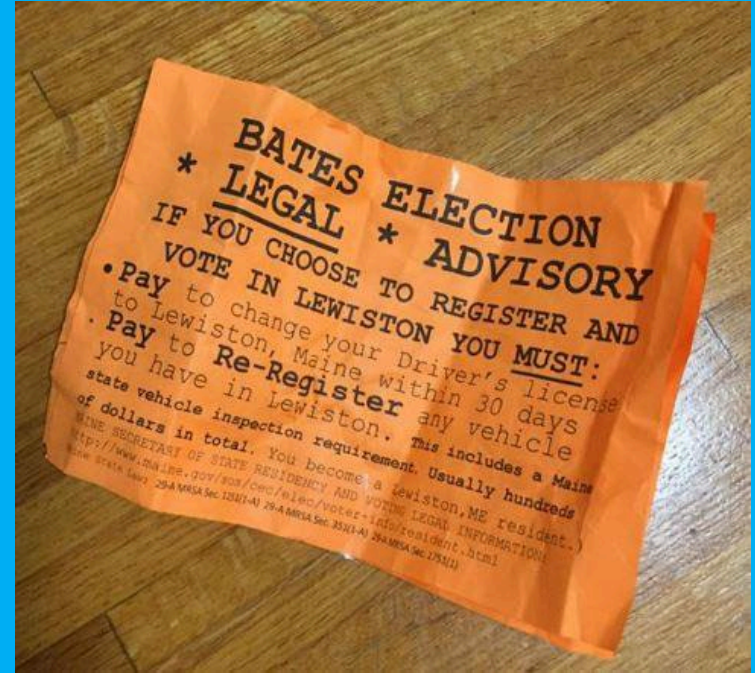


*Maine Secretary of State
Shenna Bellows*



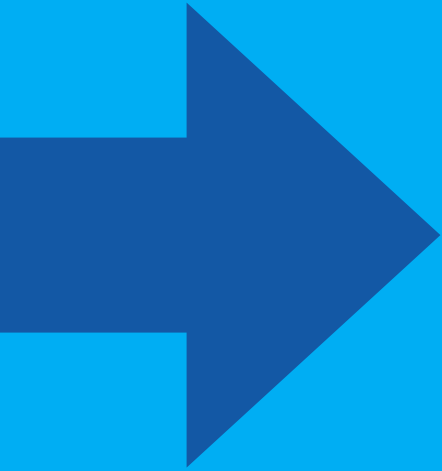
Maine's Context, Continued: The Bad and the Ugly

- Students, immigrants, and other people of color are targeted by intimidation and disinformation
- There are policy challenges:
 - Annual student re-registration
 - Unclear residency proof requirements
- 500 clerks mean room for error and confusion from inconsistency



Disinformation Targeting Students





Get Involved



Voter Protection Volunteer Opportunities

- Observe key polling places on Election Day
- Answer voter questions on our hotline
- Help build our Voter Protection Team
- Observe in-person absentee voting at town offices before Election Day
- Call voters whose mail ballots have been rejected
- Participate in remote work projects



Sign Up!

- To become an MDP VoPro volunteer, go to **MaineDems.org/VoPro**

And send other folks our way!

Any questions? **Vote@MaineDems.org**

