TEXAS PREPARED TO VOTE 2015

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTER ID

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For the November 2015 elections, and as of the date of printing these palmcards, most Texas voters will be required to present certain forms of photo identification at the polls, whether during early voting or on Election Day, to cast a ballot:

- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- United States military identification card containing your photograph
- United States citizenship certificate containing your photograph
- United States passport

Except for the U.S. citizenship certificate, the photo ID that you present must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before you vote. (Note that voters with “documented disabilities” and religious objections to being photographed may qualify for exemptions from the photo ID law. More information is available through the Texas Secretary of State’s office at www.votetexas.gov).

**What if I DO NOT have my photo ID with me?**

If you have one of the seven forms of ID listed above, but do not have it with you when you vote, you will be asked to cast a provisional ballot. In order for your provisional ballot to count, you must return to the county voter registrar with your ID within **six days**.

**What if the NAME on my ID is not exactly the same as the name under which I am registered?**

If your name isn’t an exact match, but is still “substantially similar,” then you have the right to vote, but will be required to sign an affidavit swearing that you are the same voter as the voter on the official list of registered voters. Election officials have some discretion in determining whether two forms of a name are “substantially similar,” but they must consider whether one name is a short form of the other (for example, “Elizabeth” and “Liz,” or “Francisco” and “Paco”). Also, officials must look at other information—like your address or birthdate—to help prove that you are the same voter as the one on the list.

**What if the ADDRESS on my photo ID isn’t the same as the address on the list of voters?**

You **cannot** be prevented from casting a regular (non-provisional) ballot just because the address on your photo ID is not the same as the address on the list of voters. **You may still cast a regular ballot if the addresses are not the same.**

The right to vote is the cornerstone of American democracy.

If you encounter problems on or before Election Day, don’t hesitate to call Election Protection: 1-866-OUR-VOTE

Si confronta cualquier problema en o antes del día de votación llame al Election Protection: 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA (888-839-8682)

This card is a resource, not legal advice. It is provided for informational purposes only and not as a substitute for or supplement to the legal advice necessary to address the specific concerns of any individual. Moreover, your state may revise its laws after the publication of this card. Therefore, it is your responsibility to determine how all applicable laws concerning voter registration, voting, and the restoration of voting rights in your state affect you.