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# NORTH CAROLINA VOTER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

You have the right to vote – it's the law, and the proof is in your hands! You'll notice letters and numbers after each of your rights listed below. These codes tell lawyers and poll workers where to find the N.C. statute that protects your rights as a properly registered voter. You can take this document with you to vote. Learn more about the rules for voting at [NCVoter.org](http://NCVoter.org).

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## You Have the Right to Vote

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**1. HOURS.** Each polling place is open between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm on Election Day. You must be allowed to vote if you are in line or inside the polling place at 7:30 pm (or at the closing time of an Early Voting poll). It's the law: NC General Statute (NCGS) 163-166.01

**2. IDENTIFICATION.** In general, you don't have to show identification to vote. NCGS 163-82.8. However, new voters are asked to list an ID number on the registration form – either their NC driver's license number or the last 4 digits of their Social Security number. If officials can't verify the number, or if the voter omits it, the voter will be asked at the polls to show a photo ID or one of these with their name and *current* address: a utility bill (electric, phone, water, or cable), pay stub, bank statement, or *any* document from *any* government agency. NCGS 163-166.12

**3. PROVISIONAL BALLOT.** If any problem arises, you have a right to vote with a provisional ballot. For example, ask for a provisional ballot if you believe you have registered but your name is not on the rolls; or if you are told that you are in the wrong precinct. You must also be given a way to find out if the provisional ballot was counted, and if not, the reason it was not counted. NCGS 163-166.11.

**4. IF YOU MOVE.** If you have **moved within your county** and have lived in your new location more than 30 days, you have the right to vote in your new precinct or at a central location. If you have lived in your new location less than 30 days, you must vote in your old precinct or cast a provisional ballot in your new precinct. If you have moved within your precinct, you can update your info at the polls and vote. NCGS 163-82.15.

If you **move to a new county**, you must register like a new voter, by 25 days before the election. NCGS 163-82.15

**5. NAME CHANGE.** If your name has changed since you registered to vote, you have the right to vote, even if you have not reported your name change to election officials. NCGS 163-82.16

**6. SPOILED BALLOT.** If you make a mistake on your ballot, you have a right to a new ballot. You can spoil up to three ballots. 8 NCAC 10B.0104

**7. ASSISTANCE.** You have the right to receive assistance from a family member. If you have a disability or difficulty reading (due to language ability, vision, etc.), you have a right to assistance from anyone of your choice, except your employer or union agent. Some counties offer ballot instructions in Spanish, but that is not required. NCGS 163-166.8 and 168-165-5A

**8. CURBSIDE.** If the polling place is difficult to reach due to your age or physical disability, you have a right to vote in a vehicle at the curb or at the door of the polling place. NCGS 163-166.9

**9. JUSTICE SYSTEM.** If you are in jail for a misdemeanor, you still have a right to vote. If you were convicted of a felony, you can re-register to vote once you complete your sentence, including any parole or probation (restitution and fines do not matter). NCGS 13-1.

**10. INTIMIDATION.** You have a right to vote without being intimidated or forced to vote in a certain way. NCGS 163-271

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## If You Are NOT Registered to Vote

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You can register to vote if your form is postmarked 25 days before an election. See [www.ncsbe.gov](http://www.ncsbe.gov). **If you miss that deadline, you can register and vote on the same day – but only during the Early Voting period before the election.** (You cannot do this on Election Day.) You must be a citizen, be at least 18, and have lived in the county

for 30 days before the election. Go to a One-Stop Early Voting site in your county, fill out the registration form, show one of the IDs listed in #2 above, and then vote! To find a One-Stop Early Voting site in your county, call 1-866-522-4723 or 888-OUR-VOTE.