

## Advocacy for Election Reform in Florida

To restore confidence in the integrity of Florida's elections will require fundamental reform of election laws and procedures to increase the transparency and security of the entire process. Volunteers should be advocates in their communities and across the state for these simple, commonsense reforms.

### 1.1 Commonsense Election Reforms

Eliminate third-party registration; Require voter registration take place in front of a county official. Make special arrangements to register people unable to travel to a registration facility.

Require photo ID to register and vote; If a potential registrant lacks photo ID, require proof of ID sufficient to acquire a REAL ID driver's license in the state, and issue the registered voter a state ID free of charge that can be used for polling and other purposes. (REAL ID will soon be required to fly domestically, and requires proof of citizenship for issuance.)

Demand clean voter rolls; Bloated and inaccurate voter rolls facilitate all forms of vote fraud. Require the Florida Secretary of State to conduct a comprehensive voter list audit using internationally accepted standards and practices, and then address the weaknesses in our voter registration process identified through the audit.

Allow increased observation; Transparency is the key to creating voter confidence in the integrity and legitimacy of elections, and effective election observation is recognized around the world as the most important factor in promoting transparency. To increase transparency in elections, allow observation of polling and counting by state accredited non-partisan election integrity groups.

End most early and mail-in voting; Supposedly to make it easier to vote, our election day has expanded to two weeks, with mail-in absentee voting beginning five weeks before election day; but election professionals agree that early voting and mail-in voting facilitate voter intimidation, impersonation, and other forms of fraud. To Florida's elections and restore confidence in their integrity, we must demand that lawmakers return to a single election day, with absentee voting limited to those with a genuine and provable need.

Use manual rather than machine-based voting and counting processes; Voting and counting machines are inherently non-transparent, prone to malfunction, and are viewed by many computer experts (and by senior politicians of both parties) as highly susceptible to rigging, fraud and abuse. Machine processes cannot be effectively observed and certified by election officials, observers, or ordinary citizens, and as such they have no place in Florida's elections. To restore confidence in the integrity of elections, Florida must revert to a simple, transparent, and manual polling and counting processes.

Expose "foreign" funding for campaigns from outside the affected constituency; No country in the world allows foreign funding in their election campaigns, because in a democracy only the citizens who will be represented should have influence on who is elected.

The same principle should apply across constituencies in the US. For example, it is incredibly unfair and undemocratic for Silicon Valley moguls or Davos billionaires to influence federal, state and local level races in Florida. If it is not possible to prohibit these immoral and undemocratic practices, “foreign” funding of Florida elections must be monitored and exposed, to ensure voters know who is trying to unfairly influence our representatives.

## 1.2 Taking Action

In 2022, our objective is to elect candidates committed to making commonsense election reforms that will ensure that all voters’ voices are heard, and make it easy to vote and hard to cheat. To achieve this objective will require a concerted effort across the state, and FFAF volunteers have a key role to play.

First, publicize the Commonsense Election Reforms by preparing posters and/or leaflets to put up or pass out in your AOR. The FFAF office will prepare some examples and templates you can use, but feel free to also use your own creativity, and share your creations across the network.

Print the *Commonsense Election Reform Pledge* (in the box at the end of this section), and ask all of your local candidates to sign the pledge. If any will sign, you can use that as a lever to pressure the others, as the coalition will endorse any candidate that signs the pledge. Please let us know who does sign, and who does not.

Write op-eds and letters to the editor for local papers or social media, or get interviewed on local radio. Explain the reforms and endorse the candidates who signed the pledge, and question the fitness of those who have refused to do so.

Enjoy the fine weather, and hold a rally/barbeque/party for election reform. Invite local leaders, candidates, and press. Hang out with like-minded folks, eating burnt meat and drinking beer. And please let us know about anything you do, so we can share your ideas and activities across the FFAF!

### **Florida Commonsense Election Reforms**

- *Eliminate third-party voter registration*
- *Require photo ID to register and vote*
- *Demand clean voter rolls*
- *Allow increased observation*
- *End most early and mail-in voting*
- *Use manual rather than machine-based voting and counting processes*
- *Expose “foreign” funding for campaigns from outside the affected constituency*

### **Commonsense Election Reform Pledge**

*I recognize that democracy in Florida is dependent on free and fair elections, and if elected, I promise to support legislation that will:*

- *Eliminate third-party voter registration*
- *Require photo ID to register and vote*
- *Demand clean voter rolls*
- *Allow increased observation*
- *End most early and mail-in voting*
- *Use manual rather than machine-based voting and counting processes*
- *Expose "foreign" funding for campaigns from outside the affected constituency*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate for \_\_\_\_\_