

Working Together For New Jersey
- Election Integrity Coalition -
WTNJelections.org
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Revised July 22, 2026

Bringing Election Integrity to New Jersey
Policy Statement / Executive Summary

WHO WE ARE – *Working Together for New Jersey – Election Integrity Coalition* is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations and citizens that has studied NJ election laws, systems, procedures, equipment, voter rolls and agencies of government responsible for elections since 2021. We believe there are serious flaws in many of these components of the conduct of elections in the state, and we have sought to identify these and suggest “fixes” – all with the goal of assuring unbiased, honest, transparent, observable public elections that can be conducted efficiently, with all components and functions able to be audited to commercial banking standards. Our work has expanded from a few inexperienced folks to teams operating in all 21 NJ counties, working with parallel volunteer teams in other states and with multiple national election integrity leaders and organizations. Members of our teams have led national weekly calls of the Election Integrity Network, have participated in multiple national conferences of state election integrity teams, have hosted educational conferences, have successfully litigated election issues and are today recognized as one of the best election integrity efforts in the nation.

OVERVIEW – Currently, we recommend three summary sets of recommendations to modify New Jersey’s election “systems” to achieve the above goals:

- 1) These Recommendations (the 6-page full Policy Statement is available at WTNJelections.org)
- 2) The “U.S. Citizens Elections Bill of Rights” published by the national Election Integrity Network (electionintegritynetwork.org)
- 3) The published “Model Election Laws Handbook”, 7/26 revision” (electionintegritynetwork.org)

All three are aligned in their overall recommendations, and all three were developed by citizen volunteers with no financial stake in the outcome.

WTNJelections’ recommendations come from the perspective that “if you can’t understand it, it’s too complex.” Today’s highly computerized and often integrated election registration systems are so dependent on software and black boxes that literally no one can understand what is going on within them at any given point in time. The testimony and hearings that have resulted nationwide clearly attest to problems throughout these systems. Yet the conduct of an election is not that complex, especially if its parts are designed to be simple, understandable, transparent and locally implemented. Our recommendations seek simplification of these elections processes to reduce the potential for fraud and manipulation, and to encourage greater public engagement, participation and trust. Finally, our recommendations seek a system that can be accurate, tested, reconciled, audited ... repeatedly ... with the same outcome – enhancing public trust in the conduct of public elections.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. ELIGIBILITY. Consistent with the intent of the NJ and U.S. Constitutions, only U.S. Citizens should have the right to vote. This will require re-qualification of EVERY person/name in the Voter Registration rolls, and we recommend that documented proof of U.S. Citizenship become an absolute qualification, preferably and eventually by amendment of the NJ Constitution.
2. VOTER ID. The two constitutions also require Residency, so we recommend implementing a requirement that each time a person seeks to vote, they must provide PHOTO IDENTIFICATION (with address) as defined by the U.S. Transportation Security Agency (TSA).
3. PAPER BALLOTS should replace voting machines and scanner/tabulators throughout. These ballots should be HAND-MARKED, not machine-marked. These ballots should be on special paper, and be TABULATED AT THE LOCAL VOTING DISTRICT immediately following the close of polls on Election Night, with public and video observation and full access to all tabulation procedures.
LOCAL VOTING DISTRICTS – New Jersey should return to individualized (not consolidated) voting districts, each of which should represent a small enough number of voters that the votes for all candidates and questions on any ballot can be tabulated within 3 hours. Present law anticipates each voting district to represent between 250 and 750 voters, although this is often disregarded.
4. FRESH START / VOTER REGISTRATION – The entire voter registration list should be scrapped, and citizens should be required to re-register anew, with the above proof of citizenship and photo identification to demonstrate current county residency. State officials should be required to coordinate with federal officials in auditing citizenship qualification. Voter Registration should close for any election 30 days before the commencement of the election period, to allow election officials time to put all records in order for that election.
5. END VOTE-BY-MAIL. While “old style” ABSENTEE ballots should remain a part of the process for persons who are out of town, ill or disabled, these absentee ballots should only be issued upon receipt of an original ink signature that matches the voter’s original registration documentation, and such signature should be required separately for EACH election. Automatic or every-election vote-by-mail ballots should be discontinued.

6. NO BALLOTS ACCEPTED AFTER CLOSE OF POLLS ON ELECTION DAY. Procedures which have allowed acceptance of ballots for days following "Election Day" should be terminated.
7. END "EARLY COUNTING" OF BALLOTS. While verification of the legitimacy of ABSENTEE ballots should be allowed for a brief period before Election Day, NO ABSENTEE BALLOTS should be opened or counted prior to Election Day. Vote results from absentee ballots should be quarantined and held in full sworn secrecy until the close of polls on Election Day.
8. NO "SAME DAY" REGISTRATION. Elections officials need time to verify the qualification of voters and to prepare all records to conduct the election. No "same day" registration should be allowed.
9. ACCOUNTABILITY. From the outset, New Jersey's elections systems should be built around direct accountability. At every stage a named individual should be accountable for the operation and outcome of his/her operational responsibility. Reliance on vendors to manage, oversee and conduct NJ elections should be ended. The Counties and State should own, have possession of, and be responsible for ALL voter registration and voting systems and procedures. None of this should be in the control of vendors. None of the records should be held out of state.
10. OBSERVATION & TRANSPARENCY. For the public to regain trust of the elections process, EVERY PROCEDURE should be observable by the public – nothing should be done behind closed doors.
11. RECONCILIATION. The new voting procedures should be designed so that – as in commercial banking – EVERY SEPARATE ELEMENT or transaction can be reconciled along its entire processing path. Raw paper ballots should be reconciled to marked/damaged ballots, etc. A full chain of custody needs to be standard procedure, with an individual's name attached to each reconciliation for auditing purposes.
12. FORENSIC AUDITS. As above, every part of the new elections procedure system should be audited at every election, or at least annually, to commercial banking audit standards. No part of the system should be off limits to professional, independent auditors.
13. DROP BOXES – By ending vote-by-mail and replacing it with Absentee Ballots, the need for "official drop boxes" should be drastically reduced. However, whenever an Official Drop Box is required, it should be located only within the interior of a public building, and should be under constant working video observation during all periods of the conduct of the election. The video systems should be tested prior to each election period to be certain the method and format is acceptable and viable for quick and easy public access – or online viewing.
14. DURATION / EARLY VOTING. All elections should be conducted within a very short "window" of time. The period of in-person early voting should be no longer than 7 days prior to Election Day.
15. NO BALLOT HARVESTING should be allowed; no ballots should be accepted after the close of polls Election Day.
16. VOTER ROLLS / PHANTOM VOTERS. NJ Law should be changed to require immediate deletion of a registration once a formal verification process produces evidence of death, a move, or other disqualification of the voter. Any voter should be allowed to re-register following all registration requirements, should he/she be incorrectly removed from the registration rolls.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Working Together for New Jersey Election Integrity Coalition teams
July 22, 2026*