



PRESS RELEASE
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**Ohio Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Releases Advisory Memorandum: *Voting Rights in Ohio***

The Ohio Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has released a comprehensive advisory [memorandum](#) addressing voting rights and access to the polls in the state. The memorandum, informed by a series of public panel discussions in March of this year, offers an in-depth examination of a significant number of voting concerns brought before the Committee. It also reviews and provides an updated analysis of voting challenges raised with the Committee during a similar inquiry in 2006. The memorandum offers recommendations for inclusion in the Commission's forthcoming national report on the state of voting across the U.S.

Primary concerns addressed in the memorandum include: variance in voting laws, policies, procedures, and practices across jurisdictions; inconsistent or insufficient poll worker training; voting barriers for individuals with disabilities; irregularities in the counting and/or dismissal of provisional ballots; strict limitations on early and absentee voting, particularly in large urban areas predominantly serving voters of color; state purging of voter registration rolls; political gerrymandering; language access; voter intimidation; and election security.

Committee Chair Diane Citrino said, "Voting rights are the heart of our democracy, underpinning all of our other rights. It is vital we protect our right to vote."

The advisory memorandum can be viewed on the Commission's [website](#).

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).