



PRESS RELEASE
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**Community Webinars on Voting Rights:
Texas Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights**

On April 3 and April 18, 2019, the Texas Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will host webinars to share findings and recommendations documented in its recent [Advisory Memorandum](#) on voting rights. The Committee focused on the experience of voters in the area of registration, access to and administration of polling locations, and language access, and identified a significant number of concerns, including:

- Widespread confusion and misinformation among voters regarding registration;
- Non-compliance of state voter registration procedures with the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA);
- Widespread noncompliance and lack of uniform implementation of the state's high school voter registration mandate;
- Barriers to registration caused by strict Voter Deputy Registrar rules;
- Potential disenfranchisement of voters due to changes in polling location and procedures;
- Inadequate poll worker training on addressing needs of voters with disabilities;
- Failure of numerous counties to comply with federal requirements regarding language assistance at polling locations.

The Committee will also discuss recommendations intended for federal, state, and local agencies, and will answer questions from the public. The Committee's findings and recommendations helped inform the Commission's 2018 [report](#), *An Assessment of Minority Voting Rights Access in the United States*.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Central Time (CT)
Thursday, April 18, 2019, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm CT

WHERE: April 3 registration: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/9np2s763vrrw&eom>
April 18 registration: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/w1w9f59y72sl&eom>
To participate, please access webinar **and** call into the conference line:
Audio: 877-260-1479, Passcode: 7824146

Committee Chair Mimi Marziani said, "Even with diverse backgrounds and viewpoints, our Committee agrees that voter registration and access to the polls must be fair, secure and equally available to all eligible Texans. Unfortunately, our findings demonstrate that

Texas has a long way to go before these ideals are a reality. We hope that policy-makers take seriously the many concerns we heard from Texans of all stripes and work together to strengthen our democracy.”

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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 www.usccr.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).