



PRESS RELEASE
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**Alabama Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Releases Summary of Testimony: Access to Voting in Alabama**

Montgomery, AL – The Alabama Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has released a [summary of testimony](#) on voting regulation gathered in Montgomery at a briefing conducted by the Committee in February. The impetus for the study was United States Supreme Court’s decision in *Shelby County, AL v. Holder*, the landmark case regarding the constitutionality of two provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Among the topics included in the testimony are voter identification requirements, voter roll purging policies, fair access to the ballot box, and felon disenfranchisement. The candor of witnesses at the hearing revealed that even as members of panels disagreed about the reality of voting in Alabama, they were committed to open and frank discussion about access to the ballot. The [summary of testimony](#) is a product of those [discussions](#).

Committee Chair Jenny Carroll said, “As the committee continues to work on our report, I am hopeful that the attached summary of testimony will provide insights into the effect of voting regulation on the citizens of Alabama. Our committee was fortunate to hear from a diverse array of government officials, voting experts, activists, and citizens. Their testimony, and materials gathered in preparation for and since the hearing, describe not only the regulations in place in Alabama, but offer valuable perspectives on the methods of enforcement of these regulations and the effect of such regulations on particular populations in our state.”

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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](#).