

Resources for Beyond Voting: Elections / Campaign Financing - Washington

General

Washington Secretary of State Elections

<https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/>

National Conference of State Legislatures - Elections and Campaign page “NCSL provides 50-state research on many election law and procedural issues, including Voter ID: State Requirements, Absentee and Early Voting, Primary Election Systems, Automatic Recount Thresholds, Electronic (Online) Registration and Same Day Registration

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns.aspx>

Campaign Legal Center

<http://www.campaignlegalcenter.org/>

SERIES: ARCHAIC ELECTION METHODS CRIPPLE DEMOCRACY

<http://www.sightline.org/series/voting-systems-cripple-democracy/>

SIGHTLINE'S GUIDE TO METHODS FOR ELECTING LEGISLATIVE BODIES

<http://www.sightline.org/2017/05/18/sightlines-guide-to-methods-for-electing-legislative-bodies/#majoritarian-problem-legislative-bodies-that-dont-represent-the-voters>

In the Misinformation workshop I talk about using research guides from university libraries as starting points from which to find good resources. Here's one from Harvard University on **Campaigns and Elections**.

<http://guides.library.harvard.edu/c.php?g=310717&p=2072693>

Right to Vote

Electoral Dysfunction – The Right to Vote [4 min. video]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMI0MHFGhE8>

Amendment introduced Mar 2017. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-joint-resolution/74/text>

Voter Turnout

U.S. voter turnout trails most developed countries May 21, 2018 Pew Research Center

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2016/08/02/u-s-voter-turnout-trails-most-developed-countries/>

Millions to the Polls Demos. 2014. Strategies to get more people to vote.

<http://www.demos.org/sites/default/files/publications/m2p-Main.pdf>

The U.S. Should Require All Citizens to Vote. Ornstein. July 2012.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2012/07/the-us-should-require-all-citizens-to-vote/259902/>

Vote-by-Mail bills - current session of Congress [look up on Congress.gov]

[S.1231](#)

[H.R.2669](#)

Voter Registration

“Inaccurate, Costly and Inefficient: Evidence That America’s Voter Registration System Needs an Upgrade”. Pew Center for the States. Feb, 2012.

<http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/electionlaw/documents/Pew-UpgradingVoterRegistration.pdf>

Automatic Voter Registration: Update from the Brennan Center for Justice. 2018

<https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/automatic-voter-registration>

Automatic Voter Registration bills - current session of Congress [look up on Congress.gov]

[H.R.2876](#)

[S.1353](#)

Voting Systems [the nuts and bolts]

GAO Report: **Elections: Issues Related to Registering Voters and Administering Elections.** June, 2016.

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/680/678131.pdf>

Electoral System Design Database: Comparisons of systems globally. IDEA 2018

<https://www.idea.int/data-tools/data/electoral-system-design>

Win or Lose No Voting System is Flawless. But some are less democratic than others. Anthony Gottlieb. The New Yorker. July 26, 2010. <http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2010/07/26/win-or-lose>

Washington State Election Laws https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/election_laws.aspx

Clark County Elections <https://www.clark.wa.gov/elections>

Voting Systems - Primaries

FairVote – Primary Elections

http://www.fairvote.org/primaries#open_and_closed_primaries

Open Primaries

<https://www.openprimaries.org/>

Listings of the type of Primaries for each state:

http://www.ncsl.org/documents/Elections/Primary_Types_Table_2017.pdf

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/primary-types.aspx#3>

Voting Systems - Voting Process

Ranked Choice Voting / Instant Runoff [same thing]

Ranked Choice Voting video created for Maine [1:30] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rkx0e2Cduyk>

Where RCV [Ranked Choice Voting] is Used Has helpful 2-minute video about how it worked in a Mayoral election

http://www.fairvote.org/where_is_ranked_choice_voting_used

Maine's Fitful Experiment With a New Way of Voting. Berman. 4/11/2018

https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2018/04/ranked-choice-voting-maine/557669/Voting_Berman.4/11/2018

Fair Vote <http://www.fairvote.org>

Fair Vote – Ranked Choice Voting / Instant Runoff <http://www.fairvote.org/rcv#rcvbenefits>

Fair Vote - Ranked Choice Voting in Washington Local group <https://fairvotewa.org/>

STAR Voting - <https://www.equal.vote/starvoting>

STAR Voting for Lane County, Oregon <https://www.starlane.us/>

Changing the Ballot: Local group seeks to transform the way we vote Mortensen. 3/1/2018 [Lane County]

<https://www.eugeneweekly.com/2018/03/01/changing-the-ballot/>

Discussion of **HB2146** from last legislative session which would have allowed local jurisdictions in Washington to enact

new voting systems like RCV [The bill did not go through] [https://www.sightline.org/2018/01/08/a-state-bill-to-let-](https://www.sightline.org/2018/01/08/a-state-bill-to-let-washington-localities-choose-a-better-voting-system/)

[washington-localities-choose-a-better-voting-system/](https://www.sightline.org/2018/01/08/a-state-bill-to-let-washington-localities-choose-a-better-voting-system/)

Electoral College

About the Electors. National Archives <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/electors.html>

Electoral College https://ballotpedia.org/Electoral_College

Making Every Vote Count <https://www.makeeveryvotecount.com/> "Work-around" to the Electoral College

Connecticut OKs Bill Pledging Electoral Votes To National Popular-Vote Winner. Chappell. 5/7/2018.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2018/05/07/609060190/connecticut-oks-bill-pledging-electoral-votes-to-national-popular-vote-winner>

Voting Rights

Restricting the Vote - section on the Brennan Center site that keeps track of attempts to restrict people from voting

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/restricting-vote>

Voter Rights from CQ Researcher database. May 18, 2012. [online via most libraries].

Democracy Diminished: State and Local Threats to Voting, Post-Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder

Legal Defense Fund, NAACP. 2014 [Report]

<http://www.naacpldf.org/files/publications/Democracy%20Diminished->

[State%20and%20Local%20Voting%20Changes%20Post-Shelby%20v.%20Holder_4.pdf](http://www.naacpldf.org/files/publications/Democracy%20Diminished-State%20and%20Local%20Voting%20Changes%20Post-Shelby%20v.%20Holder_4.pdf)

Voting Laws Roundup. Brennan Center for Justice. 2018

<https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/voting-laws-roundup-2018>

'Politics Ain't the Same' — How the 19th Amendment Changed American Elections Lynn Sherr Aug 28, 2016

<http://billmoyers.com/story/politics-aint-19th-amendment-changed-american-elections/>

Voting Rights for Felons in Washington State <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/felons-and-voting-rights.aspx>

Voting and the Criminal Justice System

Felony Disenfranchisement. The Sentencing Project

<http://www.sentencingproject.org/issues/felony-disenfranchisement/>

Voting Rights for Felons in Washington State <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/felons-and-voting-rights.aspx>

Voter Fraud

In Their Own Words: Officials Refuting False Claims of Voter Fraud

<https://www.brennancenter.org/quotes-on-voter-fraud>

Myth of Voter Fraud

<https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/voter-fraud>

Election Commission Documents Cast Doubt on Trump's Claims of Voter Fraud

<https://www.propublica.org/article/election-commission-documents-cast-doubt-on-trumps-claims-of-voter-fraud>

Voting Security

Senator Ron Wyden Mar 2018 Senate Hearing on election security

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXjYNLJ9yAM>

Cybersecurity Campaign Playbook. Harvard U. Belfer Center. <https://www.belfercenter.org/CyberPlaybook>

Redistricting

What is Redistricting? Levitt. Loyola Law School <http://redistricting.lls.edu/what.php>

Federal and State criteria for Redistricting <http://redistricting.lls.edu/where.php#equalpop>

Gill v Whitford case. Brennan Center. 1/24/18 [with updates]. Currently, the most important case regarding Redistricting [.https://www.brennancenter.org/legal-work/whitford-v-gill](https://www.brennancenter.org/legal-work/whitford-v-gill)

Fair Vote – Gerrymandering http://www.fairvote.org/gerrymandering#gerrymandering_key_facts

Redistricting. Brennan Center <http://www.brennancenter.org/content/section/category/redistricting/>

The State of Redistricting Litigation (Updated Aug 28, 2018 Edition). Li, Wolf and Farmer. May 2018

<https://www.brennancenter.org/blog/state-redistricting-litigation>

Citizen-Led Efforts to Reform Redistricting Aug 2018. Brennan Center.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/current-citizen-efforts-reform-redistricting>

Initiative and Referendum

Washington Initiative and Referendum <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/initiatives/>

Qualified: <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/initiatives/petition-status.aspx>

Initiatives and Referenda Handbook

<https://www.clark.wa.gov/sites/default/files/dept/files/elections/2016/Initiative%20and%20Referendum%20Handbook%20-%206-1-2016.pdf>

Campaign Finance

Campaign contribution limits chart - federal. Federal Election Commission.

<https://transition.fec.gov/info/contriblimitschart1718.pdf>

Campaign contribution limits in the states. National Conference of State Legislatures.

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/campaign-contribution-limits-overview.aspx>

Citizens United Opinion [Be sure to check out the dissenting opinion, too. Starts on page 88.]

<https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/09pdf/08-205.pdf>

Secret Spending in the States. Brennan Center. 2016. Shows the importance of state/local campaign finance laws!

https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/analysis/Secret_Spending_in_the_States.pdf

Honest Ads Act H.R.4077 and S.1989 [In current Congressional session - would require online political ads provide source info, as is done with TV and radio political ads. Look up at www.congress.gov]

Four Surefire Tips for Following the Money in Your State. Andy Kroll. January 3, 2014

<http://billmoyers.com/2014/01/03/four-surefire-tips-for-following-the-money-in-your-state/>

A 28th Amendment to Restore the American Promise [video] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6igolnTvqA>

Questions about 527 and 501(c) 4 orgs.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/outsidespending/faq.php>

Difference between SuperPACS and “dark money” [money from the non-profits]. Especially at “Here’s a huge caveat”:

<https://sunlightfoundation.com/blog/2015/10/30/the-difference-between-super-pacs-and-dark-money-groups/>

Chart of Disclosure Rules from the Campaign Legal Center

http://www.campaignlegalcenter.org/sites/default/files/CLC_501c_disclosure_chart.pdf

Cracks in the Dam: Three Paths Citizens United Created for Foreign Money to Pour into US Elections. The

Intercept. Jon Schwarz, Lee Fang. Aug. 3 2016

<https://theintercept.com/2016/08/03/citizens-united-foreign-money-us-elections/>

Getting Foreign Funds Out of America’s Elections. Vandewalker and Norden. Brennan Center. April 2018

https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/publications/Getting%20Foreign%20Funds%20Out%20of%20America%27s%20Elections.%20Final_April9.pdf

Campaign Finance Tracking

***Center for Responsive Politics – Open Secrets** All things \$ in politics including “dark money” groups. Federal level.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/>

Follow the Money From the Campaign Finance Institute <https://www.followthemoney.org/>

Copyright Donna L Cohen citizen@civictinker.net <https://www.facebook.com/Civics-for-Adults-1490728887922036/>

Free to copy with attribution for non-profit use.

Washington State Public Disclosure Commission [campaign finance info] <https://www.pdc.wa.gov/>

Browse PDC <https://www.pdc.wa.gov/browse> PDC FAQ <https://www.pdc.wa.gov/browse/follow-the-money-faq>

Public Financing of Elections

Public Financing of Presidential Elections brochure

<http://www.fec.gov/pages/brochures/pubfund.shtml>

Establish Small Donor Public Financing. Brennan Center. Feb 4, 2016

<https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/establish-small-donor-public-financing>

And, of course, Seattle's model for Small Donor election options

Misc

Reformers Caucus Bipartisan group of former members of Congress and governors committed to "restoring trust in our democratic institutions". Money in politics is one of their focuses. <https://www.issueone.org/reformers/>

Winning Reform in the States Blueprints for Democracy. 2017 Update. Reviews reform steps taken in various states.

<http://www.blueprintsfordemocracy.org/update/>

Democracy: An Election Agenda for Candidates, Activists, and Legislators. Weiser and Bannon. May, 2018.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/publication/democracy-election-agenda-2018>

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<http://guides.library.harvard.edu/c.php?g=310717&p=2072693>

Washington Video Voter's Guide <https://www.tvw.org/video-voters-guide/>