

How To File a Complaint if You Have Trouble Voting

If there is a problem with accessibility at your polling place there are a couple of different ways, depending on whether it is a federal or state election, that you can file a complaint.

The State Board of Election Commissioners has rules for filing complaints. Those rules can be found at:

https://static.ark.org/eeuploads/elections/Help_America_Vote_Act_Administrative_Complaint_Procedure.pdf.

Federal Elections

During a federal election, such as a presidential race, there is no particular form to fill out to make a complaint, but DRA has created a model form you can use which can be found on our website at:

 $\frac{https://disabilityrightsar.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/HAVA-Complaint-Form.pdf}{}$

Whether you use the DRA form or your own, there are certain steps you must take, you must:

- 1. Submit your complaint within thirty days of the problem occurring
- 2. Put the complaint in writing
- 3. Sign the complaint
- 4. Get the complaint notarized
- 5. Send the complaint to the State Board of Election Commissioners at the address below
- 6. Send a copy to the County Election Commissioner

The complaint should include a description of the problems you saw or encountered at the polling place, and where and when it happened.

If you choose, you can request a formal hearing on the issue. A hearing is an opportunity for you to explain to election officials, in person, what happened at the polling place.

You should then sign your written statement in front of a notary, who will ask for your identification to verify your complaint.

Send your complaint to:
State Board of Election
Commissioners 501 Woodlane Dr.,
Suite 401 N
Little Rock, AR
72201 Fax: (501)
682-1782

If you need an accommodation to file your complaint, you can call the State Board of Election Commissioners at (800) 411-6996.

State and Local Elections

The process for filing a complaint during a state or local election, like a school board race, is a little different. You still have to put your complaint in writing, but you do not need a notary.

There is a special form to fill out which is available online at: https://static.ark.org/eeuploads/elections/Official_Complaint_Form_FILLABLE.pdf

If you do not have access to the online form, you can call the State Board of Election Commissioners at (800) 411-6996 and ask for a copy. Once you fill out the form you have to mail it to the State Board of Election Commissioners at the address above.

For More Information or Assistance Contact:

Disability Rights Arkansas 400 W. Capitol Ave., Suite 1200 Little Rock, AR 72201 800-482-1174