Texas Voter ID law 2011

The 2011 Texas law required voters to produce one of seven photo IDs, such as a driver’s license, military ID or passport, before casting ballots. Civil rights advocates said the requirement disenfranchised Hispanics and African-Americans, who often lacked the money or means to obtain the cards. Evidence filed in the lawsuit indicated that as many as 600,000 eligible Texas voters had none of the acceptable IDs.

Under the proposed settlement, Texas voters with one of the valid ID cards would still be required to show it before casting ballots. But those without any of the IDs could still vote if they had a voter registration certificate, a birth certificate, a utility bill or bank statement, a government check, or any other government document with their name and address.

Those voters would also have to sign an affidavit stating that they were unable to easily procure any of the IDs.

*Under the law, voters lacking a valid identification were allowed to cast provisional ballots, but their votes were counted only if they obtained a valid card and delivered it to a county voting registrar within six days.*

Many provisional voters never produced the needed documents, and their ballots were discarded.