



Representative Andi Story

House District 3

Alaska State Legislature

HB 21: Voter Preregistration from Minors Question Regarding HB 21 from Hearing Date March 14th, 2026 Source: NCSL

WHAT DID IMPLEMENTATION COST IN OTHER STATES?

- The cost for implementation in Colorado in 2013 was \$572,112. This likely included the cost for any software changes to keep preregistered minors separate from other registered voters on the statewide voter registration list. The cost may include mailers sent to preregistered voters as part of Colorado's back-end opt-out AVR system. This cost likely would have been incurred anyway when voters registered at 18.
- Minnesota encountered minor state costs to make voter registration system changes, but they had much of the necessary system infrastructure already in place because they allowed registration for 17-year-olds if they turned 18 before the next election, before they implemented preregistration for 16-year-olds. In MN, lowering the preregistration age to 16 had a small impact on local costs, which increased slightly due to additional mailing costs to send voters a preregistration letter and an AVR opt-out letter.
- In Washington, implementation of preregistration was included in a larger system modernization effort; the exact cost is not available. WA estimates a loss of roughly \$237,000 for implementing the legislation, including costs like software and security updates, as well as pre-production testing.
- Other Cost considerations include personnel time to implement any necessary system updates and costs for communication resources to educate the public about preregistration. We recommend speaking with your state election director to better understand the cost of implementing preregistration.

HAS THERE BEEN ANY INCREASE IN CONFIRMED VOTER FRAUD IN STATES AFTER YOUTH PREREGISTRATION WAS ENACTED?

- NCSL is not aware of evidence of an increase in voter fraud following the implementation of voter preregistration.

HAS THERE BEEN A MEASURABLE CHANGE IN THE POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION OF YOUTH VOTERS WHO PREREGISTERED?

- Information about preregistered voters is usually confidential, so there is limited research on changes in political party affiliation for preregistered voters as compared to voters registering for the first time at age 18. After reviewing publicly available voter registration statistics for states that permit preregistration, Colorado is the only state that NCSL could find with any available statistics showing party affiliation of preregistered voters. According to their most recent statistics from February, Colorado has a total of 106,662 preregistrants, of which 4,893 are preregistered as Democrats, 7,917 are preregistered as Republicans, and the vast majority are preregistered as unaffiliated with 91,318 preregistrants.

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