

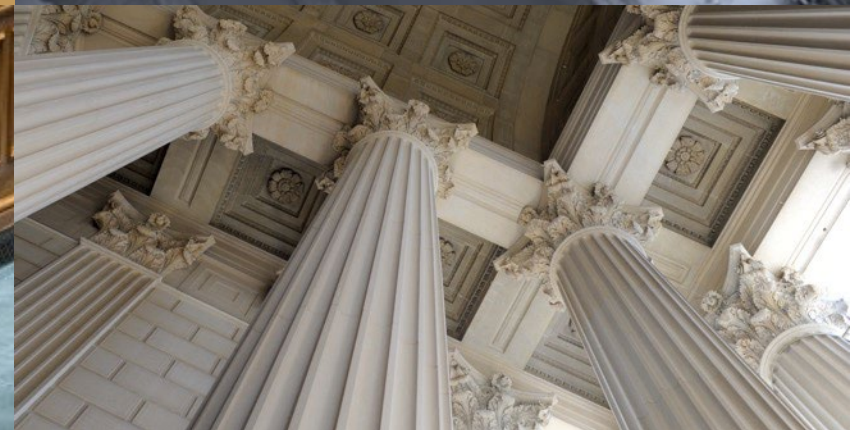


Preregistration for Young Voters

Katy Owens Hubler and Katie King

Elections & Redistricting

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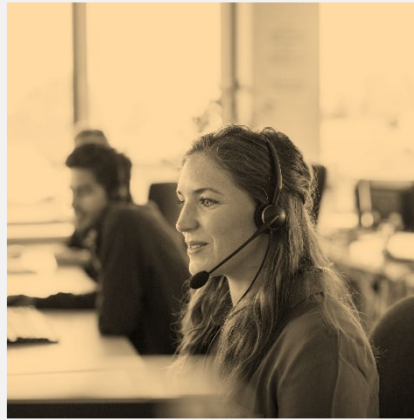
How NCSL Strengthens Legislatures



Policy Research



Connections



Training



State Voice in D.C.



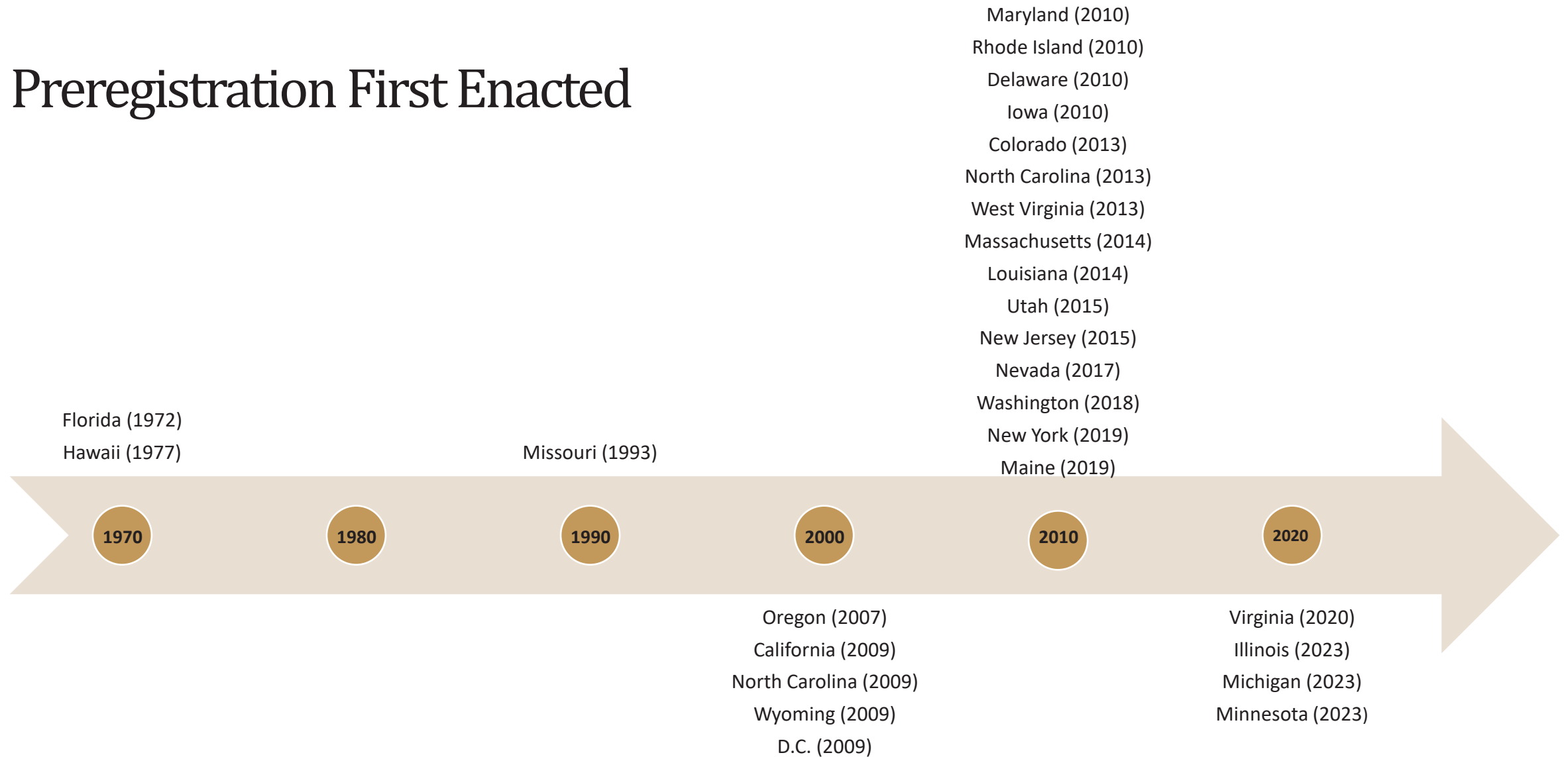
Meetings

What We're Covering



- Timeline of preregistration implementation
- Current overview of preregistration
- Preregistration and automatic voter registration
- Research on preregistration and turnout
- State approaches to registration in schools
- Other policies to engage youth

Preregistration First Enacted



Source: [NCSL Preregistration for Young Voters](#)

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What Research Says on Preregistration

- Existing research shows that preregistration **does** have a modest effect.
- Measurement is difficult, but a studies have shown that preregistration may increase turnout for voters aged 18-22 by 2% ([Fowler 2017](#)).
- More recent studies reveal that how preregistration may be offered in school matters ([Merivaki 2020](#)).



Education and Registration in State Law

Several approaches:

- Include voter registration drives in history and civics classes.
 - Rhode Island and Louisiana
- Require schools to have staff members trained on voter registration.
 - Texas, Georgia and Colorado
- Make voter registration forms available at high schools.
 - North Carolina and Virginia

Other Options to Engage Youth

- Youth poll worker programs – 44 states + D.C.
 - Allowing teens to serve as poll workers may boost voter turnout ([Kiesa, Booth, Hayat, Kawashima-Ginsberg & Medina, Tufts CIRCLE 2022](#)).
- 17-year-old voting in primaries
 - 21 states + D.C. allow 17-year-olds who will be 18 by the general election to vote in primaries ([NCSL](#)).
- Running mock elections as part of school curriculum.





Thank you for having me today!

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