



# MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Luann Ridgeway  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Governor Signs Bill Restoring Voter Confidence

JEFFERSON CITY—Sen. Luann Ridgeway, R-Smithville, announced today her appreciation for the governor having recently signed legislation ensuring fair and honest elections in Missouri.

Senate Bill 1014 requires Missourians to submit a government-issued photographic identification card in order to vote. For those who cannot afford a photo ID, they will be issued one by the state for free.

“It is every American’s duty to vote, and it is every American’s right to have that vote counted,” Ridgeway said. “This measure will restore confidence in the election process and prevent the integrity of our voting system from being diluted by election fraud and voter-registration hassles.”

SB 1014 includes provisions exempting disabled Missourians, those with religious oppositions to photo IDs, and individuals 65 or older from having to show a photo ID. Although the safeguards became effective with the governor’s signature, those without photo IDs can still vote this year if their identity is affirmed by election officials at the polling station. Those without photo IDs can also cast a provisional ballot this year if they have a non-photo ID and sign an affidavit.

Furthermore, the measure states that anyone who intimidates or harasses voters to prevent them from voting will be subject to criminal prosecution.

“With this legislation, voters can be assured that their vote will make a difference,” Ridgeway said. “From now on, Missouri’s refined election process will help make it easy to vote, but tough to cheat.”

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