

The proposed Wyoming Senate Files (**SF0028**, **SF0029**, and **SF0030**) form a legislative cluster focused on tightening the technical and legal requirements for voting and registration. Collectively, these bills move away from existing "presumptions of accuracy" and flexible identification standards toward a more rigid, manual-verification framework.

Key Legislative Themes

These three bills address different stages of the electoral process:

- **System Scrutiny (SF0028):** Increases the legal vulnerability of voting systems by removing the "conclusive presumption" that certified machines are properly prepared. It mandates standardized public testing for all hardware, including ballot-marking devices.
- **Identification Restrictions (SF0029):** Significantly narrows the list of acceptable IDs by repealing student, Medicare, and Medicaid cards. It mandates that all IDs be unexpired, include a photo, and be presented in their original issued form.
- **Terminology Standardization (SF0030):** Replaces archaic language with the very straightforward "next" election. This is legislation supported by the County Clerks.

Overall Impact on Free, Fair, and Accessible Elections

While framed as measures to improve transparency and standardization, these bills introduce significant barriers that may impact voter participation and system stability:

- **Increased Litigation and Costs:** By removing legal protections for certified equipment, **SF0028** opens the door to frequent and expensive court challenges, even in the absence of documented errors. Recent post-election audits in Wyoming have consistently resulted in **zero errors**.
- **Voter Disenfranchisement Risks:** The accelerated elimination of common forms of ID in **SF0029** specifically targets students and seniors, potentially preventing eligible citizens from voting if they lack alternative photo IDs. These are already due to be removed on 31 December 2029
- **Accessibility Barriers:** The rigid residency and ID requirements provide no clear administrative "cure" or alternative for marginalized populations, such as homeless individuals or low-income voters who may struggle with transportation to DMV offices.
- **Administrative Anxiety:** Local election officials have expressed concern that these bills add "significant administrative burden" without a clear functional need. For example, **SF0030** establishes a 30-day residency mandate that could disenfranchise voters who move shortly before an election, with no clear administrative recourse provided.

An additional bill, **SF0033** Political parties-county central committees, removes restrictions on central committee membership to elected precinct people. It does not address the privileges provided to the committee that warrants the restriction.