Voter Challenge Statutes by State

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
Alabama	Precinct election officials ALA. CODE § 17- 8-1(b)(2)	A voter is required to cast a provisional ballot if the voter: (1) "does not appear on the official list of eligible voters" (2) is "not entitled to vote at that precinct" (3) does not have proper identification. (4) "A federal or state court extends the time for closing the polls beyond that established by state law and the individual votes during the extended period of time." (5) "The person has requested, but not voted an absentee ballot" ALA. CODE §17-10-2(a).	When a person is challenged on the grounds set forth in ALA. CODE § 17-10-2(a), the person must be notified that he or she may submit a provisional ballot. To submit a provisional ballot, the person must sign an affidavit attesting that he or she is registered in that precinct and qualified to vote in the election. ALA. CODE § 17-10-2(b)(1)-(2). When a person is challenged on the grounds that the official has "knowledge" that the person is not entitled to vote in the precinct, the election official must set forth in an affidavit with facts supporting why s/he thinks the voter is not qualified and a copy must be given to the voter. *Id.* § 17-10-2(b)(4). When an absentee ballot becomes a provisional ballot as a result of an absentee precinct inspector having knowledge that the individual is not entitled to vote, the absentee precinct inspector shall follow the same procedure identified above in § 17-10- 2(b)(4) except: (1) in lieu of providing the provisional voter with a copy of the challenge statement, the inspector shall provide two copies to the absentee election manager once the results from the absentee precinct have been tabulated and certified; and (2) the absentee election manager shall mail a copy of the challenge statement to the provisional voter and include (i) written explanation of the procedure used in verifying/certifying provisional ballots; (ii) contact information; (iii) written explanation re how individual will be able to ascertain whether vote was counted and reasons for not counting the vote. *Id.* § 17-10-2(c). When the board of election considers provisional ballots, it must send notice to the challenged voter and inform him or her of how s/he can dispute the challenge. *Id.* § 17-10-2(e).

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Alaska	Election officials "must question," and watchers or any person qualified to vote in the precinct "may question" someone's qualifications to vote. ALASKA STAT. § 15.15.210.	Grounds for disqualification under ALASKA STAT. § 15.05: (1) not a U.S. citizen; (2) not 18 years old; (3) not a resident of district for 30 days before election; (4) not registered; and (5) has been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude. ALASKA STAT. §§ 15.05.010; 15.05.030. Additionally a questioned ballot may not be counted if the voter: (1) has failed to properly execute the certificate; (2) is a first-time voter who initially registered by mail, fax or electronic transmission and has not provided the identification required by ALASKA STAT. § 15.15.225(a) or § 15.07.060(a)(2),(3), and was not eligible for waiver of the identification requirements; or (3) is a voter other than one described in (2) above, did not provide required ID, and was not personally known by the election official *Id.* § 15.20.207(b)	Questioner needs "good reason to suspect that the questioned person is not qualified" Questions must be set out in writing Questioned voter must submit a form provided by the director attesting, under penalty of perjury, that the person meets all qualifications, is not disqualified, and has not already voted. After executing the declaration, the person may vote. If the person refuses to execute the declaration, he or she may not vote. ALASKA STAT. § 15.15.210. Questioned ballots are reviewed by a "questioned ballot counting board" and decided by majority vote of that board. *Id.* § 15.20.207(c). The director must mail notice to any voter whose questioned ballot was rejected within 10 days of reviewing the ballot *Id.* § 15.20.207(i).
Arizona	Any qualified elector ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 16-591 The county chairman for each political party may appoint representatives to challenge voters (one representative from each party can be at each polling place unless all parties present agree that more than one representative from each party may be present). *Id.* § 16-590.	Voter is not qualified to vote if he or she: (1) is not the person whose name appears on the register; (2) has not resided in this state for 29 days preceding the election or other event for which the registrant's status as properly registered is in question; (3) is not properly registered at a permissible address ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 16-121.01. (4) is not a U.S. citizen (5) is not 18 years of age or older (6) has not been a resident for 29 days before the election	Challenger must prove by clear and convincing evidence that person is not qualified. ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 16-121.01. The challenged voter can choose to take an oath and answer questions about the challenge. If the person decides to not take the oath and not answer questions he/she may complete a provisional ballot instead. If a majority of the election board finds the challenge invalid, the elector can vote in the usual way. If the person answers questions about the challenge and a majority of the election board finds the challenge valid, the elector can still vote by provisional ballot. *Id.* § 16-592. Early ballots may also be challenged. They must be challenged in writing before the ballot is placed in the ballot box. The challenged

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		(7) is not able to write his name or make his mark, unless prevented from so doing by physical disability (8) has been convicted of treason or a felony, unless restored to civil rights (9) has been adjudicated an "incapacitated person" as defined in § 14-5101. "Incapacitated person" means any person who is impaired by reason of mental illness, mental deficiency, mental disorder, physical illness or disability, chronic use of drugs, chronic intoxication or other cause, except minority, to the extent that he lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make or communicate responsible decisions concerning his person. *Id.* §§ 16-101; 16-121.01; 14-5101. Has voted before during that election. *Id.* § 16-591	voter must be notified of the challenge by mail. *Id.* § 16-552(D),(E).
Arkansas	Poll watchers - Each political party or candidate may have one poll watcher at each polling place to watch the polls and challenge voters. ARK. CODE §§ 7-5-312(g); 7-5-312(j)	The voter is not the registered voter whom he or she claims to be. ARK. CODE § 7-5-312. Absentee ballots may also be challenged in the manner prescribed under § 7-5-312. *Id.* § 7-5-417.	If the person cannot provide satisfactory documentation to the election worker, he or she must use a provisional ballot. ARK. CODE § 7-5-312(p). When the voter is required by law to cast a provisional ballot, the ballot shall be cast pursuant to the following procedures: (1) A poll worker shall notify the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot in that election; (2) The voter shall execute a written eligibility affirmation in the presence of the poll worker stating that he or she is a registered voter in the precinct in which he or she desires to vote and is eligible to vote; (3) Unless a provisional ballot is cast using a ballot marking device, the poll worker shall initial the back of the ballot, remove the ballot stub from the provisional ballot, and place the stub in the stub box provided; (4) The voter shall mark his or her provisional ballot; (5) The voter shall place the voted provisional ballot in a ballot secrecy envelope marked "provisional ballot" and seal the envelope;

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			(6) The voter shall place the sealed provisional ballot envelope containing the voted provisional ballot in a voter envelope, seal the envelope, and give it to the poll worker; (7) The poll worker shall provide the voter written information instructing him or her on how to determine whether his or her provisional ballot was counted, and if not, the reason the ballot was not counted; and (8) The poll worker shall make a separate list of the names and addresses of all persons voting a provisional ballot. *Id.* § 7-5-308(a). The Secretary of State shall establish a free access system to allow a provisional voter to ascertain whether his or her provisional vote was counted, and if not, the reason his or her provisional vote was not counted. Access to this information shall be restricted to the voter who case the provisional ballot. *Id.* § 7-5-308(d). Prior to certification of the results of the election, the county board shall determine whether the provisional ballots are valid. *Id.* § 7-5-308(e)(1).
California	A member of the precinct board or other official responsible for the conduct of the election. CAL. ELEC. CODE § 14240 (a). A person, other than a member of a precinct board or other official responsible for the conduct of the election, shall not challenge or question any voter concerning the voter's qualifications to vote. CAL. ELEC. CODE § 14240 (b).	(1) The voter is not the person whose name appears on the roster. (2) The voter is not a resident of the precinct, or in an election conducted using a voter center, is not a resident of the county. (3) The voter is not a citizen of the United States. (4) The voter has voted in that election. CAL. ELEC. CODE § 14240.	A voter whose registration identity cannot be verified by the registration list must be allowed to vote with a provisional ballot. CAL. ELEC. CODE § 14310. He must also swear an oath in response to a challenge in order to be allowed to vote. *Id.* §§ 14240, 14243-45. Challenges claiming voters are not residents of the precinct or citizens of the United States shall be tried and determined by the precinct board at the time of the challenge. The precinct board may, at its discretion, also request any other person present in the polling place to be sworn and answer questions if the board believes the person may have relevant information. *Id.* § 14247. If the challenge is on the ground either that the person challenged is not the person whose name appears on the roster, or that he or she has voted in that election, the challenge shall be determined in favor of the person challenged if that person takes the oath as set forth either in §§ 14243-246

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			If any member of a precinct board receives, by mail or otherwise, a document or list concerning a person's voting qualifications with the express or implied suggestion that the person be challenged, the board member shall first determine whether the document or list contains or is accompanied by evidence constituting probable cause to justify or substantiate a challenge. In any case, before making any use whatever of such a list or document, the member of the precinct board shall immediately contact the elections official charged with conducting the election and describe the contents of the document or list and the evidence, if any, bearing on voting qualifications. The elections official shall advise the members of the precinct board as to the sufficiency of probable cause for substantiating the challenge and as to the law concerning procedures for challenges by members of the precinct board. *Id.* § 14240(c).
Colorado	An election judge shall challenge any person intending to vote who the judge believes is not an eligible elector. In addition, challenges may be made by watchers or any eligible elector of the precinct. COLO. REV. STAT § 1-9-201(2).	Not a citizen Not resident of state 22 days before election Not 18 or older Not property owner or spouse of property owner COLO. REV. STAT. § 1-9-203. The ballot of any elector that has been cast by mail may be challenged using a challenge form signed by the challenger under penalty of perjury setting forth the name of the person challenged and the basis for the challenge. Challenged ballots, except those rejected for an incomplete or incorrect affidavit by an elector on the returned mail ballot envelope, forgery of a deceased person's signature on a mail ballot affidavit, or submission of multiple ballots, shall be counted. The election judges shall forthwith deliver all challenges, together with the affidavits of the persons challenged, to the county clerk and recorder or designated election official, as applicable. *Id.* § 1-9-207. The vote of any absentee voter may be challenged in the same manner as other votes are challenged, and the	A challenge at a polling location shall be made in the presence of the person whose right to vote is challenged. COLO. REV. STAT. §1-9-201(3). Each challenge shall be made by written oath, shall set forth the name of the person challenged and the specific factual basis for the challenge of the person's right to vote, and shall be signed by the challenger under penalty of perjury. The election judges shall deliver all challenges to the designated election official. No oral challenges are permitted. *Id.* §1-9-202. If a person whose right to vote is challenged at a polling location refuses to answer the questions asked or sign the challenge form in accordance with section 1-9-203 or take the oath pursuant to section 1-9-204, the person shall be offered a provisional ballot. If the person casts a provisional ballot, the election judge shall attach the challenge form to the provisional ballot envelope and indicate "Challenge" on the provisional ballot envelope. *Id.* § 1-9-201(1)(b).

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		election judges may determine the legality of such ballot. *Id.* § 1-13.5-1010.	

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Connecticut	Any elector or a challenger appointed by the registrar. CONN GEN. STAT. § 9-232(a) Each registrar may appoint one or more challengers in his town or district, one of whom may be present at the offering of any vote. *Id.*	Any elector may challenge the right of any person offering to vote on the ground of want of identity with the person on whose name the vote is offered, or disfranchisement or lack of bone fide residence. *Id.* § 9- 232(a). Any elector may challenge the right of any person offering to vote by absentee ballot based upon false identity, disenfranchisement for conviction of a felony or lack of bona fide residence. *Id.* § 9-159p(a).	A moderator shall decide upon the right of a challenged person to vote. CONN. GEN. STAT. § 9-232(a). Challenges shall not be made indiscriminately and may only be made if the challenger knows, suspects or reasonably believes such a person not to be qualified and entitled to vote. Any challenge by an elector and the statement of the person challenged shall be under oath, administered by the moderator. *Id.* § 9-232(b). The moderator shall keep an accurate memorandum of the challenge which shall include (1) the name of the challenged voter; (2) his registry list address; (3) the reason for the challenge; (4) the name and address of the challenger; (5) pertinent facts concerning the challenge; and (6) the result of the moderator's decision. The challenged voter shall also sign such memorandum and it shall be assigned the same number as the challenged ballot. *Id.* § 9-232c. If the moderator's decision pursuant to § 9-232 is not favorable to the challenged voter, such person may request a challenged ballot by submitting an application to the moderator, such application shall include as part thereof an affidavit that such person possesses all the qualifications for voting and is entitled to vote at the election. *Id.* § 9-232d.
Delaware	Challengers appointed by the political parties. One challenger from any political party which is represented by a candidate in that district may be present inside the polling place and shall be permitted to observe the conduct of the election and all the election records. 15 DEL. CODE § 4934	(1) The person offering to vote is not the person whose original permanent registration record appears in the Election District Record (2) The person offering to vote is disqualified from voting under § 4940 of this title (the person offered or accepted compensation in exchange for a qualified voter registering, voting, or refraining from doing so) (3) The person offering to vote is not a bona fide resident of the election district in whose record the person's name appears. 15 DEL. CODE §§ 4939-41.	Challenges are determined on the spot by election officer. If challenge is upheld by election officer, the voter may still vote on a provisional ballot. 15 DEL. CODE § 4936. The challengers shall not create any disturbance or obstruction and shall not unreasonably prolong any challenge or inquiry. The inspector and judges shall each have the duty to caution the challengers concerning the foregoing and, if the challenger persists, that challenger may be ejected by a majority vote of the judges and the inspector. *Id.* § 4934(b).

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		The ballot of any elector choosing to vote by absentee ballot may be challenged for the same causes and in the same manner as provided for other voters. In addition, the vote of absentee voters may be challenged: (1) on the ground that statement filed by the voter in compliance with section 5503 is false; or (2) on the grounds that the self-administered statement in the center of the face of the ballot envelope is not signed. *Id.* § 5513.	
Florida	Any elector or poll watcher. FLA. STAT. § 101.111.	The challenger must set forth why he or she believes the challenged voter is attempting to vote illegally. FLA. STAT. § 101.111. An individual is not qualified to vote if he or she is not: 1. at least 18 years of age 2. a citizen of the United States 3. a legal resident of the state 4. a legal resident of the county in which that person seeks to be registered 5. registered pursuant to the Florida Election Code. The following persons, who might be otherwise qualified, are not entitled to register or vote: 1. A person who has been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting in this or any other state and who has not had his or her right to vote restored pursuant to law. 2. A person who has been convicted of any felony by any court of record and who has not had his or her right to vote restored pursuant to law. *Id.* § 97.041.	The challenge must be reduced to writing and given to the clerk or inspector at the polls, along with a standardized oath. FLA. STAT. § 101.111(1). A challenge to a person's right to vote may occur at any time within 30 days before the election by filing the complaint and oath with the supervisor of election's office. The clerk or inspector shall immediately deliver to the challenged person a copy of the oath of the person entering the challenge, and the challenged voter may then cast a provisional ballot. *Id.* § 101.111(1)(b)(2), (c). The challenged voter has the right to submit evidence supporting his or her eligibility by not later than 5 pm on the second day after the election. *Id.* § 101.048(1). In determining whether a person casting a provisional ballot is entitled to vote, the county canvassing board reviews the information provided in the Voter's Certificate and Affirmation, written evidence provided by the person, any other evidence presented by the supervisor of elections, and, in the case of a challenge, any evidence presented by the challenger. A provisional ballot shall be counted unless the canvassing board determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the person was not entitled to vote. *Id.* § 101.048(2)(a).

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Georgia	Any elector of the county or municipality. GEORGIA CODE § 21-2-230.	The burden shall be on the elector making the challenge to prove that the person being challenged is not qualified to remain on the list of electors. GEORGIA CODE § 21-2-229. The qualifications for registration are: (a) No person shall vote in any primary or election held in this state unless such person shall be: (1) Registered as an elector in the manner prescribed by law; (2) A citizen of this state and of the United States; (3) At least 18 years of age; (4) A resident of this state and of the county or municipality in which he or she seeks to vote; and (5) Possessed of all other qualifications prescribed by law. (b) In addition to the qualifications in subsection (a) of this Code section, no person who has been judicially determined to be mentally incompetent may register, remain registered, or vote unless the disability has been removed. *Id.* § 21-2-216.	Elector challenges must be in writing and specify distinctly the grounds of such challenge. GEORGIA CODE § 21-2-230(a). Upon the filing of such challenge, the board of registrars shall immediately consider such challenge and determine whether probable cause exists to sustain such challenge. If the registrars do not find probable cause, the challenge shall be denied. If the registrars find probable cause, the registrars shall notify the poll officers of the challenged elector's precinct or, if the challenged elector voted by absentee ballot, notify the poll officers at the absentee ballot precinct and, if practical, notify the challenged elector and afford such elector an opportunity to answer. *Id.* § 21-2-230(b). If the challenged elector appears at the polling place to vote, such elector shall be given the opportunity to appear before the registrars and answer the grounds of the challenge. *Id.* § 21-2-230(c). If the challenged elector cast an absentee ballot and it is not practical to conduct a hearing prior to the close of the polls and the challenge is based upon grounds other than the qualifications of the elector to remain on the list of electors, the absentee ballot shall be treated as a challenged ballot pursuant to subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2- 386. No further action by the registrars shall be required. *Id.* § 21-2-230(e). If the challenged elector cast an absentee ballot and the challenge is based upon grounds that the challenged elector is not qualified to remain on the list of electors, the board of registrars shall proceed to conduct a hearing on the challenge on an expedited basis prior to the certification of the consolidated returns of the election by the election superintendent. The election superintendent shall not certify such consolidated returns until such hearing is complete and the registrars have rendered their decision on the challenge. If the registrars deny the challenge, the superintendent shall proceed to certify the consolidated returns. If the registrars uphold the challenge, the name of the challenged elector shall be removed from the list of electors and the ballot of the challenged elector shall be rejected and not counted and, if necessary, the returns shall be adjusted to remove any votes cast by such elector. The elector making the challenge and the challenged elector may appeal the

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			decision of the registrars in the same manner as provided in subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2-229. *Id.* § 21-2-230(g). If the challenged elector appears at the polls to vote and it is practical to conduct a hearing on the challenge prior to the close of the polls, the registrars shall conduct such hearing and determine the merits of the challenge. If the registrars deny the challenge, the elector shall be permitted to vote in the election notwithstanding the fact that the polls may have closed prior to the time the registrars render their decision and the elector can actually vote, provided that the elector proceeds to vote immediately after the decision of the registrars. If the registrars uphold the challenge, the challenged elector shall not be permitted to vote and, if the challenge is based upon the grounds that the elector is not qualified to remain on the list of electors, the challenged elector's name shall be removed from the list of electors. *Id.* § 21-2-230(h). If the challenged elector appears at the polls to vote and it is not practical to conduct a hearing prior to the close of the polls or if the registrars begin a hearing and subsequently find that a decision on the challenge cannot be rendered within a reasonable time, the challenged elector shall be permitted to vote by casting a challenged ballot on the same type of ballot that is used by the county or municipality for provisional ballots. Such challenged ballot shall be sealed in double envelopes as provided in subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-419 and, after having the word "Challenged," the elector's name, and the alleged cause of the challenge written across the back of the outer envelope, the ballot shall be deposited by the person casting such ballot in a secure, sealed ballot box notwithstanding the fact that the polls may have closed prior to the time the registrars make such a determination, provided that the elector proceeds to vote immediately after such determination of the registrars. In such cases, if the challenge is based upon the grounds that the challenged elector is not qualified to remain on the list of electors, the registrars shall proceed to finish the hearing prior to the certification of the consolidated returns of the election by the election superintendent. If the challenge is based on other grounds, no further action shall be required by the registrars. The election superintendent shall not certify such consolidated returns until such hearing is complete

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			and the registrars have rendered their decision on the challenge. If the registrars deny the challenge, the superintendent shall proceed to certify the consolidated returns. If the registrars uphold the challenge, the name of the challenged elector shall be removed from the list of electors and the ballot of the challenged elector shall be and the ballot of the challenged elector shall be rejected and not counted and, if necessary, the returns shall be adjusted to remove any votes cast by such elector. The elector making the challenge and the challenged elector may appeal the decision of the registrars in the same manner as provided in subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2-229. *Id.* § 21-2-230(i). The board of registrars shall have the authority to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, and other material upon application by the person whose qualifications are being challenged or the elector making the challenge. The party requesting such subpoenas shall be responsible to serve such subpoenas and, if necessary, to enforce the subpoenas by application to the superior court. Any witness so subpoenaed, and after attending, shall be allowed and paid the same mileage and fee as allowed and paid witnesses in civil actions in the superior court. *Id.* § 21-2-229(c). After the hearing provided for in this Code section, the registrars shall determine said challenge and shall notify the parties of their decision. If the registrars uphold the challenge, the person's application for registration shall be rejected or the person's name removed from the list of electors, as appropriate. *Id.* § 21-2-229(d). Either party shall have a right of appeal from the decision of the registrars to the superior court by filing a petition with the clerk of the superior court within ten days after the date of the decision of the registrars. A copy of such petition shall be served upon the other parties and the registrars. Unless and until the decision of the registrars is reversed by the court, the decision of the registrars shall stand. *Id.* § 21-2-229(e). If an absentee elector's right to vote has been challenged for cause, a poll officer shall open the envelope and write "Challenged," the elector's name, and the alleged cause of challenge on the back of

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			the ballot, and it shall be counted as other challenged ballots are counted. Where direct recording electronic voting systems are used for absentee balloting and a challenge to an elector's right to vote is made prior to the time that the elector votes, the elector shall vote on a paper or optical scanning ballot and such ballot shall be handled in this subsection. The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall promptly notify the elector of such challenge. *Id.* § 21-2-386(e).
Hawaii	(a) Challenging prior to election day - Any registered voter may challenge the right of a person to be or to remain registered as a voter. The challenge must be in writing. (b) Challenging on election day – Any voter rightfully in the voter service center may challenge the right to vote of any person who comes to the voting service center for voting purposes. HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-25.	(a) Challenging prior to election day - For any cause not previously decided by the board of registration or the supreme court in respect to the same person. (b) Challenging on election day - the challenge shall be on the grounds that the voter is not the person the voter alleges to be, or that the voter is not entitled to vote. No other or further challenge shall be allowed. HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-25.	(a) Challenging prior to election day - the challenge shall be in writing, setting forth the grounds upon which it is based, and be signed by the person making the challenge. The challenge shall be delivered to the clerk who shall forthwith serve notice thereof on the person challenged. The clerk shall, as soon as possible, investigate and rule on the challenge. (b) Challenging on election day - any person thus challenged shall first be given the opportunity to make the relevant correction pursuant to Sec. 11-21 ("Change of name, transfer on election day"). The challenge shall be considered and decided immediately by the clerk and the ruling shall be announced. (c) If neither the challenger nor the challenged voter shall appeal the ruling of the clerk or precinct officials, then the voter shall either be allowed to vote or be prevented from voting in accordance with the ruling. If an appeal is taken to the board of registration, the challenged voter shall be allowed to vote; provided that ballot is placed in a sealed envelope to be later counted or rejected in accordance with the ruling on appeal. HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-25. (a) In cases where the clerk, or precinct officials, rules on a challenge on election day, the person ruled against may appeal from the ruling to the board of registration of the person's county for review under part III (HRS Sec. 11-41 to 11-44). The appeal shall be brought before the challenger and challenged party leave the polling place. If an appeal is brought, both the challenger and the challenged voter may be parties to the appeal.

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			(b) In cases where the clerk rules on a challenge, prior to election day, or refuses to register an applicant, or refuses to change the register under Section 11-22 ("Changing register; correction of errors"), the person ruled against may appeal from the ruling to the board of registration of the person's county. The appeal shall be brought within ten days of service of the adverse decision. Service of the decision shall be made personally or by registered mail, which shall be deemed complete upon deposit in the mails, postage prepaid, and addressed to the aggrieved person's last known address. If an appeal from a decision on a challenge prior to election day is brought, both the challenger and the challenged voter may be parties to the appeal. (c) If the appeal is sustained, the board shall immediately certify that finding to the clerk, who shall thereupon alter the register to correspond to the findings of the board, and when necessary, the clerk shall notify the precinct officials of the change in the register. *Id*. § 11-26.
Idaho	At the time of any election, any registered elector may challenge the entry of an elector's name as it appears in the election register. ID. CODE § 34-431.	A challenge will be noted in the remarks column following the elector's name stating the reason, such as "died," "moved," or "incorrect address." ID. CODE § 34-431. Qualifications: Every male or female citizen of the United States, eighteen (18) years old, who has resided in this state and in the county for thirty (30) days where he or she offers to vote prior to the day of election, if registered within the time period provided by law, is a qualified elector. *Id*. § 34-402. No person is permitted to vote, serve as a juror, or hold any civil office who has, at any place, been convicted of a felony, and who has not been restored to the rights of citizenship, or who, at the time of such election, is confined in prison on conviction of a criminal offense. ID. CONST. ART. 6 § 3.	The individual making the challenge shall sign his name following the entry. ID. CODE § 34-431. No later than the ninth Friday after each election, the county clerk shall examine the election register and not the challenges as described in section 34-431. The county clerk shall mail a written inquiry to the challenged elector at his mailing address as indicated on his registration card. Such inquiry shall state the nature of the challenge and provide a suitable form for reply. Within twenty (20) days from date of mailing of the written inquiry the elector may, in person or in writing, state that the information on his registration card is correct. Upon receipt of such a statement or request the county clerk shall determine whether the information satisfies the challenge. If the county clerk determines that the challenge has not been satisfied, the county clerk shall schedule a hearing on the challenge and shall notify the elector of the place and time of the hearing. The hearing shall be held no later than twenty (20) days after notice is given. At the hearing, the challenged elector may present evidence of qualification. If the county clerk, upon the conclusion of the hearing, determines that the challenged elector's registration is not valid, the county clerk shall cancel the

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		The vote of any absent elector may be challenged in the same manner as other votes are challenged and the receiving judges shall have power and authority to determine the legality of such ballot. ID. CODE § 34-1009.	registration. If a challenged elector fails to make the statement or request in response to the inquiry, the county clerk shall cancel the registration. *Id.* § 34-432. The county clerk may make inquiry into the validity of any registration at any time. The inquiry shall proceed as provided in this section. *Id.* If the challenge to the vote of an absent elector is sustained, or if the receiving judges determine, that the affidavit accompanying the absent elector's ballot is insufficient, or that the elector is not a qualified registered elector, the envelope containing the ballot of such elector shall not be opened and the judges shall endorse on the back of the envelope the reason therefor. If an absent elector's envelope contains more than one marked ballot of any one kind, none of such ballots shall be counted and the judges shall make notations on the back of the ballots the reason therefor. *Id.* § 34-1009.
Illinois	Any legal voter in the election. 10 ILCS 5/17-10.	Has not resided in the state for 30 days. Not resident of district Not registered to vote Not 18 or older. 10 ILCS 5/3-1. In the polling place on election day, poll watchers shall be permitted to be present during the casting of the absent voters' ballots and the vote of any absent voter may be challenged for cause the same as if he were present and voted in person. *Id*. 5/19-10.	Upon challenge, challenged voter must swear an oath to the election judge alleging they meet the qualifications. And he shall prove by documentation or witness that he is a resident. If the election judge accepts it, he can vote and the judge submits the affidavit with the poll records. 10 ILCS 5/17-10. If the election judge is not satisfied with the proof offered, the voter may submit a provisional ballot. *Id*. 5/18A-5.
Indiana	In general: Each party or candidate may appoint one challenger per polling place to challenge on the basis of identity.	In general: Ineligible to vote in the precinct. IND. CODE § 3-11-8-21. For primaries:	If a voter makes an oral or a written affirmation under section 5 or 7 of this chapter and is then challenged under IC 3-10-1 or IC 3-11-8 as ineligible to vote in the precinct, the voter shall be provided with a provisional ballot under Ind. Code § 3-11.7 rather than a regular official ballot. The affidavit executed under this chapter serves as a sufficient affidavit for the voter to receive a provisional

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
	IND. CODE § 3-6-7-1. For primaries: A voter in a precinct may challenge a voter or person who offers to vote at a primary election. *Id.* § 3-10-1-9.	The challenged person may not vote unless the challenged person: (1) is registered; (2) makes: (A) an oral or a written affirmation under Ind. Code § 3-10-12; or (B) an affidavit: (i) that the challenged person is a voter of the precinct; or (ii) required under Ind. Code § 3-10-11 if the voter declares that the voter is entitled to vote under Ind. Code § 3-10- 11; and (3) either: (A) at the last general election voted for a majority of the regular nominees of the political party for whose candidates the challenged person proposes to vote in the primary election and intends to vote for the regular nominees of the political party at the next general election; or (B) if the challenged person did not vote at the last general election, intends to vote at the next general election for a majority of the regular nominees of the political party holding the primary election. *Id.* § 3-10-1-9. Only a voter who is a member of the political party for whose candidates a person is offering to vote at a primary election may challenge the person on the ground of party affiliation. *Id.* § 3-10-1-10. A person may not challenge the right of an individual to vote at an election in the precinct solely on the basis of the individual's: (1) enrollment in an educational institution; or (2) registration to vote at an address that is housing provided for students by the educational institution. *Id.* § 3-5-4.5-2. Except as permitted in a primary election under IC 3-10-1, a person may not challenge the right of an individual to vote at an election in the precinct solely on the basis of the individual's: (1) actual or perceived affiliation with a political party; or	ballot under Ind. Code § 3-11.7. IND. CODE § 3-7-48-7.5. Challenger must write an affidavit asserting: (1) The name of the challenger. (2) The name of the person being challenged. (3) The reasons the challenger believes the person being challenged is not a legal voter in the precinct. (4) The source of the information provided under subdivision (3). (5) A statement that the challenger understands that making a false statement on the affidavit is punishable under the penalties of perjury. *Id.* § 3-11-8-21. .

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		(2) support or opposition to a candidate or the adoption of a public question. *Id.* § 3-5-4.5-3.	
Iowa	Any precinct election official or registered voter. I.C.A. § 49.79.	a. The challenged person is not a citizen of the United States. b. The challenged person is less than eighteen years of age as of the date of the election at which the person is offering to vote. c. The challenged person is not a resident at the address where the person is registered. However, a person who is reporting a change of address at the polls on election day pursuant to section 48A.27, subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraph (3), shall not be challenged for this reason. d. The challenged person is not a resident of the precinct where the person is offering to vote. e. The challenged person has falsified information on the person's registration form or on the person's declaration of eligibility. f. The challenged person has been convicted of a felony, and the person's voting rights have not been restored. g. The challenged person has been adjudged by a court of law to be a person who is incompetent to vote and no subsequent proceeding has reversed that finding. I.C.A. § 49.79 Any person qualified to vote at the election in progress may challenge the qualifications of a person casting an absentee ballot by submitting a written challenge to the commissioner no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. *Id.* § 53.31.	1. When the status of any person as a registered voter is so challenged, the precinct election officials shall explain to the person the qualifications of an elector, and may examine the person under oath touching the person's qualifications as a voter. 2. In case of any challenges of an elector at the time the person is offering to vote in a precinct, a precinct election official may place such person under oath and question the person as, (a) where the person maintains the person's home; (b) how long the person has maintained the person's home at such place; (c) if the person maintains a home at any other location; (d) the person's age; (e)the person's citizenship status. The precinct election official may permit the challenger to participate in such questions. The challenged elector shall be allowed to present to the official such evidence and facts as the elector feels sustains the fact that the person is qualified to vote. Upon completion thereof, if the challenge is withdrawn, the elector may cast the vote in the usual manner. If the challenge is not withdrawn, section 49.81 shall apply. I.C.A. § 49.80 If the challenge is not withdrawn, the voter shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot and must sign an affidavit asserting s/he is a qualified voter. The precinct election official must provide the voter with information on how to present evidence to the special precinct counting board in response to the challenge. *Id.* § 49.81 A challenge of the registration of a registered voter may be filed at any time. A challenge filed less than seventy days before a regularly scheduled election shall not be processed until after the pending election unless the challenge is filed within twenty days of the commissioner's receipt of the challenged registrant's registration form or notice of change to an existing registration. A challenger

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			may withdraw a challenge at any time before the hearing held pursuant to section 48A.16 by notifying the commissioner in writing of the withdrawal. *Id.* § 48A.14 At the time and place fixed for the hearing, the commissioner shall accept evidence on the challenge from the challenger and the challenged registrant, or from any person appearing on behalf of either, and review any documents or statements pertaining to the challenge received before the hearing. On the basis of the evidence submitted, the commissioner shall either reject the challenge or cancel the registration of the challenged registrant. Either the challenged registrant or the challenger may appeal the commissioner's decision to the district court in the commissioner's county, and the decision of the court shall be final. *Id.* § 48A.16 With respect to challenges of absentee electors, the commissioner shall immediately send a written notice to the elector whose qualifications have been challenged. The notice shall be sent to the address at which the challenged elector is registered to vote. The notice shall advise the elector of the reason for the challenge, the date and time that the special precinct election board will reconvene to determine challenges and that the elector has the right to submit written evidence of the elector's qualifications. As far as possible, other procedures for considering provisional ballots shall be followed. I.C.A. § 53.31.
Kansas	It shall be the duty of each judge of election to challenge any person offering to vote, whom the judge shall know or suspect not to be qualified as an elector. K.S.A. § 25-414	A person who: (1) Has moved from an address in the registration book to another address in the same county; or (2) has not moved, but the registration list indicates otherwise, is a qualified elector, but shall be challenged by an election judge and entitled to cast only a provisional ballot pursuant to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. Any person who votes after the polling place hours prescribed in K.S.A. 25- 106, and amendments thereto, pursuant to a court or other order is entitled to cast only a provisional ballot pursuant to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. K.S.A. § 25-414.	If any person challenged pursuant to K.S.A. 25-414, and amendments thereto, shall refuse to subscribe the application for registration pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments thereto, the judges shall reject such person's vote.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		The vote of any advance voting voter may be challenged in the same manner as other votes are challenged, as nearly as may be, and the judges of the special election board shall determine the validity of each advance voting ballot. Any advance voting ballot envelope which has not been signed shall not be opened, and no vote on the ballot therein shall be counted. Such envelope or ballot shall be challenged in the same manner in which other votes are challenged. *Id.* § 25-1136.	If a person is challenged pursuant to K.S.A. 25-414, and amendments thereto, such person shall be permitted to subscribe the application for registration and mark a ballot. The person shall then execute the affirmation prescribed in subsection (c) of this section before a member of the election board and the ballot shall thereupon be sealed in an envelope. The judges shall write on the envelope the word 'provisional' and a statement of the reason for the challenge, and that the ballot contained in the envelope is the same ballot which was challenged pursuant to K.S.A. 25-409 et seq. and amendments thereto. Such statement shall be attested by two of the judges. The judges shall attach the application for registration to the envelope containing the provisional ballot The envelope shall be numbered to correspond to the number of the provisional voter's name in the registration or poll book, and the word 'provisional' shall be written following the voter's name in the poll book. The judges shall provide written information stating how the voter may ascertain whether the voter's provisional ballot was counted and, if such ballot was not counted, the reason therefore. Such provisional ballots, together with objected to and void ballots packaged in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3008, and amendments thereto, shall be reviewed by the county board of canvassers at the time prescribed for canvassing votes, and such board shall determine the acceptance or rejection of the same. The county board of canvassers shall open all ballots deemed to be valid and include such ballots in the final canvass of election returns. K.S.A. § 25-409. The application shall be delivered to the election judges and attached to the provisional ballot envelope. Such application and ballot envelope containing the ballot shall be transmitted to the county election officer with election returns and supplies.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			Following the determination of acceptance or rejection of any provisional ballot by the county board of canvassers, the county election officer shall update the registration record, if appropriate, for voting in future elections, and send, by non- forwardable first-class mail, to the address specified on the application, notice of disposition of the application. The registrant's name shall not be removed from the official list of eligible voters by reason of such a change of address except as provided in K.S.A. 25-2316c, and amendments thereto. *Id.* § 25-414. If objection is made to an advance voting ballot because of form, condition or marking thereof, the ballot shall be marked "void" if the judges uphold the objection to the entire ballot, and otherwise shall be marked on the back thereof, "objected to" with a statement of the substance of the objection. Void, provisional and objected to advance voting ballots shall be transmitted to the county election officer in the same manner as personally cast provisional ballots are transmitted but shall be placed in separate envelopes or sacks, appropriately labeled and sealed. Votes contained in void and provisional advance voting ballots shall not be included in the total of votes certified by the special election board and shall be reviewed by the board of county canvassers, and such board shall finally determine the acceptance or rejection of each void, provisional or objected to ballot. K.S.A. § 25-1136.
Kentucky	Each political party is entitled to have not exceeding two (2) challengers at each precinct during the holding of the primary election. KY. REV. STAT. § 117.315.	The duties of a challenger appointed and certified as provided in KRS 117.315 shall include: The challenge of the eligibility of a voter who presents himself at the precinct to vote, but who the challenger has reason to believe: (a) Is not a duly registered voter in the precinct; (b) Is not a resident of the precinct; (c) Is a convicted felon who has not had his civil rights restored; or (d) Is not the person he claims to be. KY. REV. STAT. § 117.316.	If the challenger attempts to challenge a person's right to vote, he shall express his challenge to the precinct election officer; he shall sign the oath of voter executed by the voter if the voter's name appears on the precinct roster and state the reason for his challenge as required by KRS 117.245(2). KY. REV. STAT. § 117.316. (1) The fact that a person is registered constitutes only prima facie evidence of his right to vote and does not prevent the officers of any election from refusing to allow him to vote for cause. (2) When the officers of an election disagree as to the qualifications of a voter or if his or her right to vote is disputed by a challenger, other than for failure to provide identification, the voter shall sign a written oath as to his qualifications before he is permitted to vote.

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			(3) The subscribed oaths shall be returned to the county clerk who shall deliver them to the Commonwealth's attorney. (4) The Commonwealth's attorney and county attorney shall investigate each of the oaths and cause to be summoned before the grand jury the witnesses they or either of them, deem proper, and the grand jury shall make a thorough investigation of all votes so cast, and return indictments against all persons illegally voting. The foreman of the grand jury shall return to the county clerk all of the oaths upon which no indictments are found. The clerk shall safely keep them as a part of the records of his office, and shall produce any or all of them, when required, to any subsequent grand jury. *Id.* § 117.245 A challenger appointed and certified as provided in KRS 117.315 shall not: (1) Electioneer or campaign on behalf of any candidate, issue, or political party; (2) Handle official election materials except as provided in KRS 117.187; (3) Attempt to intimidate or harass, verbally or otherwise, any voter who is being challenged or any precinct election officer; (4) Behave in any manner to disrupt activities at the polling place; or (5) Attempt to interfere with the proper conduct of the election. *Id.* § 11.317 Upon receipt of notification from the circuit clerk that a person has been declared incompetent, the State Board of Elections shall within five (5) days cause the removal of the name of that person from the voter registration records it maintains, except that no voter's name may be removed during the period of time the registration books are closed for any primary, general, or special election. Following the purge of a name from the records of the State Board of Elections, the state board shall notify the clerk of the county in which the voter lived of the action; and the county clerk shall within ten (10) days update the county voter registration files to reflect the necessary change. If a protest is filed by the voter, the

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			county board shall hear it at its next regular monthly meeting. If the county board decides in favor of the protesting voter, the voter's registration record shall be restored, including his voting record. If the protest is filed while the registration books are closed and the county board decides in favor of the protesting voter, the county board shall issue the voter an "Authorization to Vote" for the upcoming election and the voter's record shall be restored when the registration books open following the election. *Id.* § 116.113. The challenge of an absentee ballot returned by mail shall be in writing and in the hands of the county clerk before 8 am on the day preceding any primary, regular election, or special election day. "When the name of a voter who cast a mail-in absentee ballot is processed and reviewed by the members of the county board of elections or the members of the central ballot counting board, the vote of the voter may be challenged by any board member or by the written challenge provided in subsection (1) of this section and the challenge may be determined and the vote accepted or rejected by the board as if the voter was present and voting in person; but if the outer envelope and the detachable flap are regular, and each substantially comply with the provisions of this chapter, they shall be considered as showing that the voter is prima facie entitled to vote. If the vote of a voter is rejected pursuant to the challenge, the secrecy envelope shall not be opened, but returned to the outer envelope upon which the chair or member shall write on the envelope the word "rejected";." *Id.* § 117.087 (8).

Louisiana	A commissioner, watcher, or qualified voter may challenge a person applying to vote in a primary or general election. LA. STAT. ANN. REV. STAT. § 18:565. A candidate or his representative, a member of the board, or a qualified elector may challenge an absentee by mail or early voting ballot. *Id.* § 18:1315.	(1) The applicant is not qualified to vote in the election, (2) The applicant is not qualified to vote in the precinct, or (3) The applicant is not the person whose name is shown on the precinct register. LA. STAT. ANN. REV. STAT. § 18:565. Qualifications: No person shall be permitted to register or vote who is: (1) Under an order of imprisonment, as defined in R.S. 18:2(8), for conviction of a felony; or (2) Interdicted after being judicially declared to be mentally incompetent as a result of a full interdiction proceeding pursuant to Civil Code Article 389. A person subject to a limited interdiction pursuant to Civil Code	The original record of the challenge, signed by the challenger, shall be placed in the envelope marked "Put in Voting Machine" and shall be preserved as part of the election returns. The duplicate record of the challenge and address confirmation card shall be placed in the envelope marked "Registrar of Voters" and the envelope shall be attached to the precinct register. The commissioners present shall determine the validity of the challenge. If they determine by majority vote that the challenge is valid, the applicant shall not be permitted to vote. However, if the valid challenge has determined that the applicant has moved within the parish or has moved outside the parish within the last three months, the voter shall be allowed to vote upon an completing address confirmation card. If a majority of the commissioners determine that the challenge is invalid, the applicant shall be permitted to vote. LA. STAT. ANN. REV. STAT. § 15:565.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		Article 390 shall be permitted to register and vote unless the court in that proceeding specifically suspends the interdicted person's right to vote in the judgment of interdiction. If a person was previously subject to full interdiction, which has been changed to a limited interdiction, that person shall be eligible to register and vote unless the judgment of limited interdiction specifically suspends that right. *Id.* § 18:102. A candidate or his representative, a member of the board, or a qualified elector may challenge an absentee by mail or early voting ballot for the grounds specified in LA. STAT. ANN. REV. STAT. §§ 18:565(A); 18:1315.	In an election for federal office, when an applicant's name does not appear on the precinct register and the registrar of voters has not authorized the applicant to vote by affidavit, or the commissioners assert that the applicant is not eligible to vote, and the applicant declares himself to be a registered voter and eligible to vote in the election for federal office , the applicant may cast a provisional ballot for candidates for federal office. *Id.* § 18:566. With respect to challenges of absentee ballots, the challenge must be on the form provided by the secretary of state and include: (1) the ground, specified in § 18:565(A), on which the challenge is made; (2) the election involved; (3) the specific reason for which the challenge is made; and (4) the contact information of the person challenging the ballot. If a challenge in accordance with the absentee ballot challenge provisions is sustained, the vote shall not be counted, the ballot or early voting confirmation sheet shall be placed in the special absentee by mail and early voting ballot envelope or container, and the board shall notify the voter in writing of the challenge and the cause therefor within three days by mail. However, if the challenge is based upon a change of residence within the parish or is based upon a change of residence outside the parish that has occurred within the last three months, the ballot shall be counted provided that the voter confirmed his current address as shown by the affidavit of the absentee by mail envelope flap or early voting confirmation sheet, or, if the voter is on the inactive list of voters, as shown by the information provided on an address confirmation card. *Id.* § 18:1315.
Maine	Any voter in a municipality or an election official may challenge the right of another to vote at any election in that municipality. 21-A ME. REV. STAT. ANN. § 673.	Only the following reasons for challenges may be accepted by the warden. The challenged person: (1) Is not enrolled in the proper party, if voting in a primary election;	Must be based on personal knowledge or reasonably supported belief.

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		(2) Is not qualified to be a registered voter because the challenged person: (a) Does not meet the age requirements as specified in sections 111, subsection 2 and section 111-A; (b) Is not a citizen of the United States; or (c) Is not a resident of the municipality or appropriate electoral district within the municipality; (3) Registered to vote during the closed period or on election day and did not provide satisfactory proof of identity and residency to the registrar pursuant to section 121, subsection 1-A, except that only an election official may challenge for this reason; (4) Did not properly apply for an absentee ballot; (5) Did not properly complete the affidavit on the absentee return envelope; (6) Did not cast the ballot or complete the affidavit before the appropriate witness; (7) Communicated with someone as prohibited by section 754-A, subsection 1, paragraph B or subsection 3, paragraph B or D; (8) Did not have the ballot returned to the clerk by the time prescribed; (9) Voted using the name of another; (10) Committed any other specified violation of this Title; or (11) Voted using the wrong ballot for the appropriate electoral district or political party, if applicable. 21-A ME. REV. STAT. ANN. § 673. An absentee ballot may be challenged the same as a regular ballot under section 673. *Id.* § 757.	Must submit affidavit to warden signed under oath including specific source of information or personal knowledge underlying the challenge. A challenge made must be made at the time the voter being challenged is checking in with the election clerk in charge of the incoming voting list in accordance with section 671 but before that voter enters the voting booth, except that the registrar or clerk may complete a challenge affidavit under oath to the warden before or during election day. A challenge must be made against an absentee ballot after the name of the absentee voter is announced by the warden or clerk in accordance with section 759 and before the ballot is placed into the ballot box or voting machine. 21-A ME. REV. STAT. ANN. § 673(1)(C). A challenged ballot is counted the same as a regular ballot. If the challenged ballot affects the result of an election, the envelope containing the challenge affidavit is submitted to the Supreme Judicial Court where its validity will be determined. *Id.* § 696.
Maryland	(1) The following persons or entities have the right to designate a registered voter as a challenger or a watcher at	(1) The right of an individual to vote may be challenged at the polls only on the grounds of identity.	A challenge to an individual's right to vote shall be made before the individual is issued a ballot or a voting authority card. If a challenge is made, and the challenged individual does not present any of the forms of identification specified under

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
	each place of registration and election: (i) the State Board for any polling place in the State; (ii) a local board for any polling place located in the county of the local board; (iii) a candidate; (iv) a political party; and (v) any other group of voters supporting or opposing a candidate, principle, or proposition on the ballot (2) A person who appoints a challenger or watcher may remove the challenger or watcher at any time. An election judge shall permit an individual other than an accredited challenger or watcher who desires to challenge the right to vote of any other individual to enter the polling place for that purpose. MD. ELEC. LAW § 10-311.	(2) An individual whose right to vote is challenged at the polls may establish the individual's identity by presenting any of the following forms of identification: (i) the individual's voter registration card; (ii) the individual's Social Security card; (iii) the individual's valid Maryland driver's license; (iv) any identification card issued to the individual by a political subdivision of the State, the State, the federal government, or any unit of a political subdivision of the State, the State, or the federal government; (v) any employee identification card of the individual that contains a photograph of the individual and is issued by the employer of the individual in the ordinary course of the employer's business; or (vi) a copy of a current bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and current address of the individual. MD. ELEC. LAW § 10-312.	subsection (a)(2) of this section, the election judge receiving the challenge shall: (1) require the challenger to provide in writing, under penalty of perjury, the reasons for the challenge; (2) offer the challenged individual the opportunity to: (i) cast a provisional ballot; and (ii) submit an attestation, witnessed by the election judge, of the individual's identity; and (iii) submit the provisional ballot and other materials related to the challenge to the local board. MD. ELEC. LAW § 10-312. Rights of challengers and watchers: Except as provided in § 10-303(d)(2) of this subtitle and subsection (d) of this section, a challenger or watcher has the right to: (1) enter the polling place one-half hour before the polls open; (2) enter or be present at the polling place at any time when the polls are open; (3) remain in the polling place until the completion of all tasks associated with the close of the polls under § 10-314 of this subtitle and the election judges leave the polling place; (4) maintain a list of registered voters who have voted, or individuals who have cast provisional ballots, and take the list outside of the polling place; and (5) enter and leave a polling place for the purpose of taking outside of the polling place information that identifies registered voters who have cast ballots or individuals who have cast provisional ballots. *Id.* § 10-311.
Massachusetts	Any election officer or other person may challenge a voter for any legal cause. MA. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, §§ 85, 85A (1998 ed.); 950	Any legal cause, including the following examples: the person is not old enough to vote; the person is not a citizen; the person should have been removed from the voting list; the person has already voted; the person is	When asked by an election officer, the challenger shall be required to briefly set forth factual information specific and personal to the challenged voter as to the reasons that voter is not qualified to vote in the election at that precinct. If the election officer determines that the challenger has not provided sufficient factual information

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
	C.M.R. § 54.04(23). Any election officer or other person may challenge a person's right to vote for any legal cause. The challenger may challenge an absentee ballot as well for reasons allowed by law. The challenger must state, based upon information particular to that voter, the reason for challenging the right of a person to vote. . An observer-challenger shall remain at a fixed location in the polling place designated by the election officer near enough to the check-in table but behind the guard rail so as to hear and see a voter checking in to cast a ballot. 950 C.M.R. § 54.04(23).	not the person he claims to be. MA. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, § 85; 950 C.M.R. § 54.04(23). Qualifications for being on the voting list include: being eighteen years of age or older, not being a person under guardianship or incarcerated in a correctional facility due to a felony conviction, not being temporarily or permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, being a resident in the city or town where the person claims the right to vote at the time he registers. MA. GEN. LAWS ch. 51 § 1. Challenges cannot be made for the purpose of intimidation or ascertaining how a person voted. Such challenges may be fined up to $100. 950 C.M.R. § 54.04(23)(c). All absentee ballots shall be subject to challenge when and as cast for non-compliance with any provision of the sections governing absentee ballots, or for any other reason allowed by law, including that the voter was not unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place on the day of the election. MA. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, § 96.	specific and personal to that voter demonstrating that the voter is not qualified to vote at that precinct, then the election officer shall reject the challenge on the grounds that the challenge was not based upon legal cause. The election officer shall note in the clerk's election record the name of the challenged voter, the name of the challenger, the factual basis for the challenge and the reason why the challenge was rejected. 950 C.M.R. § 54.04(23)(a),(d). If a voter is challenged, the warden shall ask the challenger to briefly set forth factual information specific and personal to the challenged voter as to the reasons that voter is not qualified to vote in the election in that precinct. If the election officer determines that the challenge is valid the warden shall administer the following oath to the challenged person: "You do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you are the identical person whom you represent yourself to be, that you are registered in this town and that you have not voted at this election." The warden shall require the challenged person to write his name and present residence on the outside of the punch-card envelope or the optical scanner ballot (If it is an absentee ballot, the warden shall insert this information.) Where punch-cards are used, the warden shall write the precinct number, the letters "CV," and the number of the challenged voter on the punch- card envelope and ballot card, "CV1" on the first envelope and ballot card, "CV2" on the second, etc. The warden shall add the name and address of the challenger and the stated reason for the challenge, and the voter may cast the ballot in the ballot box or feed the ballot through the vote tabulator. No statement shall be made or information given by any person as to how the person voted. The clerk of the precinct shall record in the clerk's Election Record the name and residence of every person who is challenged and has voted. The election officers in charge of the voting list shall mark the letter "CV" next to the challenged voter's name on the voting list. 950 C.M.R. § 54.04(23)(d). Absentee ballots that are challenged shall be disposed of in accordance with section eighty-five, except that so much of said section as involves the administering of an oath shall not apply thereto, and the writing of the name and address of the voter on the ballot shall be performed by the officer charged with depositing

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			the ballot in the ballot box. MA. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, § 96.
Michigan	Any elector and the election inspector, but the inspector can challenge on more grounds. MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. § 168.727(1).	Inspector: May challenge an elector's right to vote if s/he knows or has good reason to suspect that the applicant is not a qualified and registered elector of the precinct, or if a challenge appears in connection with the applicant's name in the registration book, or may challenge the right of an individual attempting to vote who has previously applied for an absent voter ballot and who on election day is claiming to have never received the absent voter ballot or to have lost or destroyed the absent voter ballot. Registered elector: May challenge an elector's right to vote if s/he knows or has good reason to suspect that individual is not a registered elector in that precinct, or may challenge the right of an individual attempting to vote who has previously applied for an absent voter ballot and who on election day is claiming to have never received the absent voter ballot or to have lost or destroyed the absent voter ballot. MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. § 168.727(1).	Upon a challenge being made under section 168.727(1) (see "On What Grounds" column), an election inspector shall immediately do all of the following: (a) Identify as provided in sections 745 and 746 a ballot voted by the challenged individual, if any. (b) Make a written report including all of the following information: (i) All election disparities or infractions complained of or believed to have occurred. (ii) The name of the individual making the challenge. (iii) The time of the challenge. (iv) The name, telephone number, and address of the challenged individual. (v) Other information considered appropriate by the election inspector. (c) Retain the written report created under subdivision (b) and make it a part of the election record. (d) Inform a challenged elector of his or her rights under section 729. Section 729 provides that if any person attempting to vote shall be challenged as unqualified, he shall be sworn by one of the inspectors of election to truthfully answer all questions asked him concerning his qualifications as an elector and any inspector or qualified elector at the poll may question said person as to such qualifications. If the answer to such questions show that said person is a qualified elector in that precinct, he shall be entitled to receive a ballot and vote. Should the answers show that said person is not a qualified elector at that poll, he shall not be entitled to receive a ballot and vote. If any one of his answers concerning a material matter shall not be true, he shall, upon conviction, be deemed guilty of perjury. MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. §§ 168.727(2); 168.729.

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			A challenger shall not make a challenge indiscriminately and without good cause. A challenger shall not handle the poll books while observing election procedures or the ballots during the counting of the ballots. A challenger shall not interfere with or unduly delay the work of the election inspectors. An individual who challenges a qualified and registered elector of a voting precinct for the purpose of annoying or delaying voters is guilty of a misdemeanor. *Id.* § 168.727(3).
Minnesota	Election judges, authorized challengers and other voters. MINN. STAT. ANN. § 204C.12.	Those who may challenge voters may do so on the grounds that the challenged voter is not an eligible voter. MINN. STAT. ANN. § 204C.12. Eligibility requirements: Subdiv. 1. Requirements: Except as provided in subdivision 2, an individual who meets the following requirements at the time of an election is eligible to vote. The individual must: (a) be 18 years of age or older; (b) be a citizen of the United States; and (c) maintain residence in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding the election. Subdiv. 2. Not eligible: The following individuals are not eligible to vote. Any individual: (a) convicted of treason or any felony whose civil rights have not been restored; (b) under a guardianship in which the court order revokes the ward's right to vote; or (c) found by a court of law to be legally incompetent Id. § 201.014. The eligibility or residence of a voter whose application for an absentee ballot is recorded under section 203B.19 may be challenged in the manner set forth by section	Statement of grounds; oath: A challenger must be a resident of this state. The secretary of state shall prepare a form that challengers must complete and sign when making a challenge. The form must include space to state the ground for the challenge, a statement that the challenge is based on the challenger's personal knowledge, and a statement that the challenge is made under oath. The form must include a space for the challenger's printed name, signature, telephone number, and address. An election judge shall administer to the challenged individual the following oath: "Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will fully and truly answer all questions put to you concerning your eligibility to vote at this election?" The election judge shall then ask the challenged individual sufficient questions to test that individual's residence and right to vote. Determination of residence: In determining the legal residence of a challenged individual, the election judges shall be governed by the principles contained in section 200.031. If the challenged individual's answers to the questions show ineligibility to vote in that precinct, the individual shall not be allowed to vote. If the individual has marked ballots but not yet deposited them in the ballot boxes before the election judges determine ineligibility to vote in that precinct, the marked ballots shall be placed unopened with the spoiled ballots. If the answers to the questions fail to show that the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct and the challenge is not withdrawn, the election judges shall verbally administer the oath on the voter certificate to the individual. After

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		201.195 (relating to eligibility and residence challenges). MINN. STAT. ANN. § 203B.20.	taking the oath and completing and signing the voter certificate, the challenged individual shall be allowed to vote. Refusal to answer questions or sign a polling place roster: A challenged individual who refuses to answer questions or sign a polling place roster as required by this section must not be allowed to vote. A challenged individual who leaves the polling place and returns later willing to answer questions or sign a polling place roster must not be allowed to vote. MINN. STAT. ANN. § 204C.12. With respect to electors voting by absentee ballot, the county auditor shall not be required to serve a copy of the petition and notice of hearing on the challenged voter. If the absentee ballot application was submitted on behalf of a voter by an individual authorized under section 203B.17, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), the county auditor must attempt to notify the individual who submitted the application of the challenge. The county auditor may contact registered voters to request information that may resolve any discrepancies appearing in the application. All reasonable doubt shall be resolved in favor of the validity of the application. If the voter's challenge is affirmed, the county auditor shall provide the challenged voter with a copy of the petition and the decision and shall inform the voter of the right to appeal as provided in section 201.195. MINN. STAT. ANN. §203B.20.
Mississippi	1) The following persons shall be designated as authorized challengers and shall be allowed to challenge the qualifications of any person offering to vote: a) Any candidate whose name is on the ballot in the precinct in which the challenge is made;	A person off ring to vote may be challenged upon the following grounds: a) that he is not a registered voter in the precinct; b) that he is not the registered voter under whose name he has applied to vote; c) that he has already voted in the election; d) that he is not a resident in the precinct where he is registered; e) that he has illegally registered to vote; f) that he has removed his ballot from the polling place;	When it so clearly appears in the unanimous opinion of the poll managers, either by the admissions or statements of the person challenged or from documentary or oral evidence then presented to the poll managers, that the challenge is well taken, the vote shall be rejected entirely and shall not be counted. When it so clearly appears in the unanimous opinion of the poll managers, either by the admissions or statements of the person challenged or from documentary or oral evidence then presented to the poll managers, that the challenge is frivolous and not made in good faith, the poll managers shall disregard the challenge and the voter shall cast his or her vote as other voters in the polling place as though not challenged.

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	b) any official poll watcher of a candidate whose name is on the ballot in the precinct in which the challenge is made; c) any official poll watcher of a political party for the precinct in which the challenge is made; d) any qualified elector from the precinct in which the challenge is made; or e) any manager, clerk, or poll worker in the polling place where the person whose qualifications are challenged is offering to vote; or f) the registrar in the registrar's office where the person whose qualifications are challenged is offering to vote 2) The challenge of any authorized challenger shall be considered and acted upon by the appropriate election officials. MISS. CODE ANN. § 23-15-571.	g) he is otherwise disqualified by law. MISS. CODE ANN. § 23-15-571. "Idiots and insane persons" not qualified to vote. MS CONST. ART. 12 § 241. With respect to absentee ballot challenges, any person has an opportunity to challenge in like manner and for the same cause as the voter could have been challenged had he presented himself personally in such precinct to vote. The ineligibility of the voter to vote by absentee ballot shall be a ground for a challenge. MISS. CODE ANN. § 23-15-643.	When it does not so clearly appear whether the challenge is well taken or frivolous and no unanimous decision can be made by the poll managers, the challenged voter shall mark his or her choices and cast his or her vote by paper ballot. After the ballot has been marked by the challenged voter, it shall be marked by the poll managers on the back "CHALLENGED," and the name of the voter and the reason the challenge of the voter was made shall also be written on the back of the ballot. All challenged ballots shall be placed in the ballot box until the close of the polls at which time, upon the opening of the ballot box, all challenged ballots shall be removed therefrom and separately counted, tallied and totaled with a separate return made of the challenged votes. Challenged ballots shall be placed in a separate strong envelope, and returned to the ballot box. MISS. CODE ANN. § 23-15-579. With respect to absentee ballots, if an affidavit is required, the appropriate election officials shall examine the affidavit of each absentee ballot envelope. If the officials are satisfied that the affidavit is sufficient and that the absentee voter is otherwise qualified to vote, an official shall announce the name of the voter and shall give any person present an opportunity to challenge in like manner and for the same cause as the voter could have been challenged had he presented himself personally in such precinct to vote. The officials shall consider any absentee voter challenged when a person has previously filed a written challenge of such voter's right to vote. The election officials shall handle any such challenge in the same manner as other challenged ballots are handled. MISS. CODE ANN. § 23-15-643.
Missouri	Any election official, challenger, or registered voter, or any authorized challenger at the polling place. MO. REV. STAT. § 115.429.	Challenges may be made to identity or qualifications MO. REV. STAT. § 115.429. Qualifications Listed in Statutes: 1. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, any citizen of the United States who is a resident of the State of Missouri and seventeen years and six months of age or older shall be entitled to register and to vote in any election which is held on or after his eighteenth birthday.	3. Any question of doubt concerning the identity or qualifications of a voter shall be decided by a majority of the judges from the major political parties. If such election judges decide not to permit a person to vote because of doubt as to his identity or qualifications, the person may apply to the election authority or to the circuit court as provided in sections 115.193 and 115.223. 4. If the election judges cannot reach a decision on the identity or qualifications of any person, the question shall be decided by the

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		2. No person who is adjudged incapacitated shall be entitled to register or vote. No person shall be entitled to vote: (1) While confined under a sentence of imprisonment; (2) While on probation or parole after conviction of a felony, until finally discharged from such probation or parole; or (3) After conviction of a felony or misdemeanor connected with the right of suffrage. 3. Except as provided in federal law or federal elections and in section 115.277, no person shall be entitled to vote if the person has not registered to vote in the jurisdiction of his or her residence prior to the deadline to register to vote. MO. REV. STAT. § 115.133. Qualifications Listed in Constitution: No person who has a guardian of his or her estate or person by reason of mental incapacity, appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction and no person who is involuntarily confined in a mental institution pursuant to an adjudication of a court of competent jurisdiction shall be entitled to vote, and persons convicted of felony, or crime connected with the exercise of the right of suffrage may be excluded by law from voting. MO. CONST. ART. 8 § 2. Any absentee ballot or any vote on an absentee ballot may be challenged by the same persons and in the same manner as provided in section 115.429. Each challenge shall be decided in the manner provided in the same section. MO. REV. STAT. §115.303.	election authority, subject to appeal to the circuit court as provided in section 115.223. 5. The election judges or the election authority may require any person whose right to vote is challenged to execute an affidavit affirming his qualifications. The election authority shall furnish to the election judges a sufficient number of blank affidavits of qualification, and the election judges shall enter any appropriate information or comments under the title "Remarks" which shall appear at the bottom of the affidavit. All executed affidavits of qualification shall be returned to the election authority with the other election supplies. Any person who makes a false affidavit of qualification shall be guilty of a class one election offense. MO. REV. STAT. § 115.429. Note: § 115.223 has been repealed. The voter is entitled to a provisional ballot even if the election authority determines the voter is not eligible if the voter fills out a provisional ballot affidavit. The provisional ballot will only be counted if the election authority determines that the voter is registered and eligible to vote and if the vote was properly cast. *Id.* § 115.430.
Montana	An elector's right to vote may be challenged at any time by any registered elector. MT. CODE ANN. § 13-13-301.	A challenge may be made on the grounds that the elector: (a) is of unsound mind, as determined by a court;	An elector's right to vote may be challenged by the challenger filling out and signing an affidavit stating the grounds of the challenge and providing any evidence supporting the challenge to the election administrator or, on election day, to an election judge.

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		(b) has voted before in that election; (c) has been convicted of a felony and is serving a sentence in a penal institution; (d) is not registered as required by law; (e) is not 18 years of age or older; (f) has not been, for at least 30 days, a resident of the county in which the elector is offering to vote; (g) is a provisionally registered elector whose status has not been changed to a legally registered voter; or (h) does not meet another requirement provided in the constitution or by law. MT. CODE ANN. § 13-13-301.	When a challenge has been made under this section, unless the election administrator determines without the need for further information that the challenge is insufficient: (a) prior to the close of registration under 13-2-301, the election administrator shall question the challenger and the challenged elector and may question other persons to determine whether the challenge is sufficient or insufficient to cancel the elector's registration under 13-2-402; or (b) after the close of registration or on election day, the election administrator or, on election day, the election judge shall allow the challenged elector to cast a provisional paper ballot, which must be handled as provided in 13-15-107. In response to a challenge, the challenged elector may fill out and sign an affidavit to refute the challenge and swear that the elector is eligible to vote. If the challenge was not made in the presence of the elector being challenged, the election administrator or election judge shall notify the challenged elector as soon as possible of who made the challenge and the grounds of the challenge and explain what information the elector may provide to respond to the challenge. The notification must be made: (i) within 5 days of the filing of the challenge if the election is more than 5 days away; or (ii) on or before election day if the election is less than 5 days away. The election administrator or, on election day, the election judge shall also provide to the challenged elector a copy of the challenger's affidavit and any supporting evidence provided. The secretary of state shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section and shall provide standardized affidavit forms for challengers and challenged electors. MT. CODE ANN. § 13-13-301.
Nebraska	Any inspector, judge or clerk of election, or registered voter. NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-926.	Any person offering to vote may be challenged as unqualified. The judge or clerk of election shall challenge any person offering to vote whom he or she knows or suspects not to be duly qualified. NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-926.	Challenged voter must swear an oath that s/he is citizen, resident, and old enough. NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-931. Any person who swears the oath must be allowed to vote. If not, the person is not allowed to vote. *Id.* § 32-932.

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		(1) No person is qualified to vote or to register to vote who is non compos mentis or who has been convicted of treason under the laws of the state or of the United States unless restored to civil rights. No person who has been convicted of a felony under the laws of this state or any other state is qualified to vote or to register to vote until two years after the sentence is completed, including any parole term. The disqualification is automatically removed at such time. NEB. REV. STAT. § 32-313.	
Nevada	Any registered voter of the precinct. NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. § 293.303.	Oral challenges may be made only on the grounds that the person is not the person entitled to vote as claimed or has voted before at the same election. NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. § 293.303. Written challenges may be made on any ground. *Id.* Voter is not qualified if adjudicated mentally incompetent. NEV. CONST. ART. 2, § 1.	If an oral challenge is made, the challenged voter must swear out an affidavit that he is who he claims to be and provides identification. If he fails to do so, he may vote at the special polling place pursuant to NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. § 293.304. Otherwise, a written challenge must be filed with the county clerk between 30 and 25 days before the election. NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. §§ 293.303; 293.547. If a challenge is filed with the clerk, the challenged person must be given notice. If the person fails to respond or appear to vote within the required time, the county clerk shall cancel the person's registration. The district attorney must investigate the challenge within 14 days of receiving notification from the clerk, and, if appropriate, cause proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted in a court of competent jurisdiction without delay. *Id*. § 293.547. 2. If a person is challenged, an election board officer shall tender the challenged person an oath based on the nature of the challenge. The oath or affirmation must be set forth on a form prepared by the Secretary of State and signed by the challenged person under penalty of perjury. 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, if the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation so tendered, he must not be issued a ballot, and the officer in charge of the election board register shall write the words "Challenged" opposite his name in the election board register. 4. If the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation set forth in paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 2 of

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			N.R.S. 293.303, the election board officers shall issue him a nonpartisan ballot. 5. If the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall inform him that he is entitled to vote only in the manner prescribed in N.R.S. 293.304. 6. If the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation and the challenge is not based on the ground set forth in paragraph (e) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall issue him a partisan ballot. 7. If the challenge is based on the ground set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2, and the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation, the election board shall not issue the person a ballot until he furnishes satisfactory identification which contains proof of the address at which he actually resides. For the purposes of this subsection, a voter registration card does not provide proof of the address at which a person resides. 8. If the challenge is based on the ground set forth in paragraph (e) of subsection 2 and the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation, the election board shall not issue the person a ballot unless he: (a) Furnishes official identification which contains a photograph of himself, such as his driver's license or other official document; or (b) Brings before the election board officers a person who is at least 18 years of age who: (1) Furnishes official identification which contains a photograph of himself, such as his driver's license or other official document; and (2) Executes an oath or affirmation under penalty of perjury that the challenged person is who he swears he is. 9. The election board officers shall: (a) Record on the challenge list: (1) The name of the challenged person; (2) The name of the registered voter who initiated the challenge; and (3) The result of the challenge; and

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			(b) If possible, orally notify the registered voter who initiated the challenge of the result of the challenge. *Id.* § 293.303.
New Hampshire	Any voter registered in the town or ward in which the election is held. N.H. REV. STAT. § 659:27.	1. The person is not who he or she claims to be; 2. The person seeking to vote has already voted in the election; 3. The person seeking to vote is disqualified as a voter by conviction of a willful violation of the election laws; 4. The person is under 18 years of age; 5. The person is not a U.S. citizen; 6. The person is not domiciled in the town or ward where s/he is seeking to vote; 7. The person does not reside at the address listed for that person; 8. The person is an incarcerated convicted felon who is currently sentenced to incarceration; 9. This is a primary and the person is not a declared member of the party s/he claims to be affiliated with; or 10. The person is ineligible to vote pursuant to a state or federal statute or constitutional provision. N.H. REV. STAT. § 659:27-a A voter is not qualified if: -under 18 years of age -convicted of treason, bribery, election law violation N.H. CONST. pt 1, Art. 11.	Upon receipt of a written challenge, the moderator shall determine if the challenge to the ballot is well grounded. If the moderator determines that it is more likely than not that the challenge is well grounded, the moderator shall not receive the vote of the person so challenged. If the moderator determines that the challenge is not well grounded, the moderator shall permit the voter to vote. N.H. REV. STAT. § 659:27.
New Jersey	Challenges may be made by challengers, two of whom are appointed for each municipality or subdivision by each party's county committee chairman.	Challengers may challenge on any grounds affecting the right to vote. N.J. STAT. ANN. §19:7-5. Voter must be US citizen, 18 years or older, and resident of the county in which he seeks to vote for 30 days N.J. CONST. ART. 2 § 1 ¶ 3.	The grounds for the challenge must be written in a signed document and a copy given to the challenged voter. N.J. STAT. ANN. § 19:15-18.2. If a person is challenged, he must swear an oath that he "verily believe[s]" that he is a qualified voter. If he does not make the oath,

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	The chairman of the county committee may also appoint additional challengers for any election equal in number to the number of municipalities in the county and such challengers may exercise their powers, as provided for in R.S. 19:7-5 at the polling place of any election district in the county during the time an election occurs therein. N.J. STAT. ANN. § 19:7-1.	Every person possessing the qualifications required by Article II, paragraph 3, of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and having none of the disqualifications hereinafter stated and being duly registered as required by this Title, shall have the right of suffrage and shall be entitled to vote in the polling place assigned to the election district in which he actually resides, and not elsewhere. No person shall have the right of suffrage-- (1) Who has been adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting; or (6) Who has been convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of this Title, for which criminal penalties were imposed, if such person was deprived of such right as part of the punishment therefor while serving a sentence of incarceration according to law unless pardoned or restored by law to the right of suffrage; or (7) Who shall be convicted of the violation of any of the provisions of this Title, for which criminal penalties are imposed, if such person shall be deprived of such right as part of the punishment therefor while serving a sentence of incarceration according to law, unless pardoned or restored by law to the right of suffrage; or (8) Who is serving a sentence of incarceration as the result of a conviction of any indictable offense under the laws of this or another state or of the United States. N.J. STAT. ANN. § 19:4-1.	he may not vote. Unclear whether taking oath entitles voter to vote. *Id.* § 19:15-21. The question as to the giving of the ballot to the person shall be put in the following form: "Shall a ballot be given to this person by this board?" If a majority of the board shall decide to give a ballot to such voter or in case of a tie vote, the voter shall be given a ballot and allowed to vote. If a majority of the board shall decide against giving a ballot to the voter no ballot shall be given. The board upon demand of a member of the board or any other citizen shall forthwith issue a warrant for the arrest of such person and deliver the same to a peace officer, who shall forthwith arrest him, and the right to challenge voters shall exist until the ballot shall have been deposited in the ballot box. Every such challenge and the determination of the board shall in every instance be recorded in the signature comparison record, in the column "Sig. Comp. by," used at the election at which the challenge has been made. *Id.* § 19:15-24.
New Mexico	Challengers appointed by each party. N.M STAT. ANN. § 1-2-21. Challengers and watchers shall be voters of a precinct located in that county to which they are appointed.	A challenge may be interposed by a member of the precinct board or by a party challenger for the following reasons: A. the person is not registered; B. the person is listed among those persons to whom an absentee ballot was mailed; C. the person has already cast a ballot in that election;	When a challenge is interposed, the election clerks shall enter the word "CHALLENGED" under the notation headings in the signature rosters, along with the reason for the challenge, the time the challenge was made and the name and title of the person interposing the challenge. N.M. STAT. ANN. § 1-12-21. Challenges shall be handled as follows:

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	No person shall be qualified for appointment or service as a challenger, watcher or election observer: A. who is a candidate for any office to be voted for at the election; B. who is a spouse, parent, child, brother or sister of any candidate to be voted for at the election; C. who is married to a parent, child, brother or sister of any candidate to be voted for at the election or who is the parent of the spouse of any candidate to be voted for at the election; or D. who is a sheriff, deputy sheriff, marshal, deputy marshal or state or municipal police officer. *Id.* § 1-2-22. A lawfully appointed challenger may view the official mailing envelope and may challenge the ballot of any absent voter. *Id.* § 1-6-14(C).	D the person is improperly registered because the person is not a qualified elector; or E. in the case of a primary election, the person desiring to vote is not affiliated with a political party represented on the ballot. N.M. STAT. ANN. § 1-12-20. Qualifications: Every citizen of the United States, who is over the age of twenty-one years, and has resided in New Mexico twelve months, in the county ninety days, and in the precinct in which he offers to vote thirty days, next preceding the election, except idiots, insane persons and persons convicted of a felonious or infamous crime unless restored to political rights, shall be qualified to vote at all elections for public officers. N.M. CONST. ART. 7 § 1. A lawfully appointed challenger may view the official mailing envelope and may challenge the ballot of any absent voter for the following reasons: (1) the official mailing envelope has been opened by someone other than the voter prior to being received by the absent voter election board; (2) the official mailing envelope does not contain a signature; (3) the official mailing envelope does not contain the required voter identification; or (4) the person offering to vote is not a voter as provided in the Election Code N.M STAT. ANN. § 1-6-14(C).	A. if the challenge is unanimously affirmed by the presiding judge and the two election judges, the person shall nevertheless be furnished a provisional paper ballot. The election clerks shall enter such voter's name in the checklist of registered voters, and the voter shall sign the voter's name in the signature roster. The word "Affirmed" shall be written opposite such voter's name under the challenge notation in the signature roster and checklist of registered voters, together with the number of the ballot so furnished; or B. if the challenge is not unanimously affirmed by the presiding judge and the two election judges, the voter shall be allowed to vote, and the election clerks shall enter the words "Not Affirmed" under the challenge notation after the voter's name in the signature roster and the checklist of registered voters. *Id.* § 1-12-22. If a challenge is upheld by unanimous vote of the presiding judge and the election judges, the official mailing envelope shall not be opened but shall be placed in a container provided for challenged ballots. If the reason for the challenge is satisfied by the voter before the conclusion of the county canvass or as part of an appeal, the official mailing envelope shall be opened and the vote counted. *Id.* § 1-6-14(D).
New York	An inspector or clerk, any duly appointed watcher, or any registered voter properly in	An inspector shall challenge every person offering to vote, whom he shall know or suspect is not entitled to vote in the district, and every person whose name appears on the list of persons to be challenged on	After challenge, the voter must swear an oath, under penalty of perjury, that the challenger is wrong. S/he must also answer any questions asked by the inspector. If s/he swears the oath, the inspector records the challenge information and submits it, and the

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	the polling place. N.Y. ELEC. § 8-502. Any person may challenge a voter's registration. *Id.* § 5-220.	election day which is furnished by the board of elections. N.Y. ELEC. § 8-502. Persons may be challenged on the following grounds: -not being a US citizen -not being a resident of the district -not being registered to vote -being party to a bribe -being a felon -having been adjudged mentally incompetent See id. § 8-504. During the examination of absentee ballot envelopes, any inspector shall, and any watcher or registered voter properly in the polling place may, challenge the casting of any ballot upon the ground or grounds allowed for challenges generally or (a) that the voter was not entitled to cast an absentee ballot, or (b) that notwithstanding the permissive use of titles, initials or customary abbreviations of given names, the signature on the ballot envelope does not correspond to the signature on the registration poll record, or (c) that the voter died before the day of the election. *Id.* § 8-506.	voter may vote. If the voter does not swear the oath, s/he may not vote. See N.Y. ELEC. § 8-504(3), (7), (8). Any person may challenge the registration of a voter by executing and delivering to the board of elections or a board taking registrations, his affidavit that he had reason to believe that such voter's registration should be cancelled. Such affidavit shall contain the affiant's full name, residence, and business address, the name of his employer, the registration serial number of the person challenged and a recital of the reasons and the facts supporting affiant's belief that the person challenged lacks the qualifications for voting prescribed in this chapter and specified in such affidavit. The affidavit shall state if the reasons for challenge are based upon the affiant's personal knowledge, or upon information received from another person. If the affiant's belief is based upon information furnished by another, the affidavit shall recite the name of the person furnishing the information and the basis for his information. After the affiant has signed such affidavit a member of such board shall read to him and request him to sign the following oath, which shall be subscribed by such affiant: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the foregoing statement made by me on (insert day, month and year) is a truthful disclosure of the reasons for my belief that the registered voter therein named is not qualified to continue to be registered in the election district in which he is now registered." If the affiant shall take and sign such oath, the members of the board shall sign their names as witnesses below the affiant's subscription to such oath. Each such affidavit shall be directed toward the challenge of only one registrant. The board shall give full assistance to any person desiring to execute such an affidavit. The board of elections shall furnish the necessary forms. Upon receipt of such affidavit the board of elections forthwith shall conduct an investigation of the voter's qualifications to remain registered in the same manner as provided for applications for personal registration by mail. Any person whose registration is so challenged shall be notified thereof by the board of elections by registered or certified mail within five days after the affidavit is received by it. If the board of elections cannot complete its investigation, or cannot make a determination before the next election at which the registrant could vote, it shall place his name

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			on a challenge list as a person to be challenged when voting. *Id*. § 5-220. With respect to challenges of absentee ballots, the board of inspectors shall quickly proceed to determine each challenge. Should the board, by majority vote, sustain the challenge, the reason and the word "sustained" shall be similarly endorsed upon the envelope and an inspector shall sign such endorsement. The envelope shall not be opened and such envelope shall be retuned unopened to the board of elections. If a challenge is sustained after the ballot has been removed from the envelope, but before it has been deposited in the ballot box, such ballot shall be rejected without being unfolded or inspected and shall be returned to the envelope. The board shall immediately enter the reason for sustaining the challenge on such envelope and an inspector shall sign such endorsement. If the board of inspectors determines by majority vote that it lacks sufficient knowledge and information to determine the validity of a challenge, the inspectors shall endorse upon the ballot envelope "unable to determine", enter the reason for the challenge in the appropriate section of the challenge report and return the envelope unopened to the board of elections. Such ballots shall be cast and canvassed pursuant to section 9- 209. *Id*. § 8-506.
North Carolina	Any registered voter. N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. §163- 87. With respect to absentee ballots, any registered voter of the same precinct as the absentee voter may challenge that voter's absentee ballot. N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 163-89.	The grounds are limited to the following: (1) That a person is not a resident of the State of North Carolina, or (2) That a person is not a resident of the county in which the person is registered, provided that no such challenge may be made if the person removed his residency and the period of removal has been less than 30 days, or (3) That a person is not a resident of the precinct in which the person is registered, provided that no such challenge may be made if the person removed his residency and the period of removal has been less than 30 days, or (4) That a person is not 18 years of age, or if the challenge is made within 60 days before a primary, that	A challenge entered on the day of a primary or election shall be heard and decided by the chief judge and judges of election of the precinct in which the challenged registrant is registered before the polls are closed on the day the challenge is made. When the challenge is heard the precinct officials conducting the hearing shall explain to the challenged registrant the qualifications for registration and voting in this State, and shall examine him as to his qualifications to be registered and to vote. If the challenged registrant insists that he is qualified, and if, by sworn testimony, he shall prove his identity with the person in whose name he offers to vote and his continued residence in the precinct since he was registered, one of the judges of election or the chief judge shall tender to him an oath to sign asserting he is a qualified voter.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		the person will not be 18 years of age by the next general election, or (5) That a person has been adjudged guilty of a felony and is ineligible to vote under G.S. 163-55(2), or (6) That a person is dead, or (7) That a person is not a citizen of the United States, or (8) With respect to municipal registration only, that a person is not a resident of the municipality in which the person is registered, or (9) That the person is not who he or she represents himself or herself to be. N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 163-85.	If the voter doesn't make the oath, s/he may not vote. If s/he does, s/he may only vote if the judge overrules the challenge. N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 163-88. If the judge sustains the challenge, the voter may still vote a challenged ballot after filling out an affidavit swearing to be a qualified voter. *Id.* § 163-88.1. No challenge shall be sustained unless the challenge is substantiated by affirmative proof. In the absence of such proof, the presumption shall be that the voter is properly registered or affiliated. *Id.* § 163-90.1(b). The absentee ballot of any voter may be challenged on the day of any statewide election beginning no earlier than noon and ending no later than 5:00 p.m. or by the chief judge at the time of closing of the polls as provided in sections 163-232 and 163-258.26(b). The absentee ballot of any voter received by the county board of elections pursuant to section 163-231(b)(ii) (postmarked by the election day) or (iii) (related to deadline for military and overseas voters) may be challenged no earlier than noon on the day following the election and no later than 5:00 p.m. on the next business day following the deadline for receipt of such absentee ballots. Each challenged absentee ballot shall be challenged separately and the burden of proof shall be on the challenger. Each challenge shall be made in writing and, if they are available, shall be made on forms prescribed by the State Board of Elections. Each challenge shall specify the reasons why the ballot does not comply with the provisions of this article or why the absentee voter is not legally entitled to vote in the particular election. The challenge shall be signed by the challenger. All challenges shall be heard by the county board of elections on the day set for the canvass of the returns. All members of the board shall attend the canvass and all members shall be present for the hearing of challenges to absentee ballots. Before the board hears a challenge to an absentee ballot, the chairman shall mark the word "challenged" after the voter's name in the register of absentee ballot applications and ballots issued and in the pollbook of absentee voters. The board then shall hear the challenger's reasons for the challenge and it shall make its decision without opening the envelope.

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			The board has authority to administer the necessary oaths or affirmations to all witnesses brought before it to testify to the qualifications of the voter challenged or the (in)validity of the ballot. If the challenge is sustained, the chairman shall mark the ballot accordingly and the ballot shall not be counted. If the challenge is overruled, the absentee ballot shall be counted. Any voter whose ballots have been challenged may, either personally or through an authorized representative, appear before the board at the hearing on the challenge and present evidence as to the validity of the ballot. N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 163-89.
North Dakota	Poll clerks. N.D. CENT. CODE § 16.1-05-07. Note: North Dakota's challenge statute (N.D. CENT. CODE § 16.1-05- 06) was repealed in 2013 as part of a bill that introduced voter identification requirements and has not been replaced with subsequent legislation. This chart contains a description of North Dakota's voter identification law.	(1) Before delivering a ballot to an individual in any election, the poll clerks shall require the individual to show a valid form of identification with the information required under section 16.1-01-04.1. N.D. CENT. CODE § 16.1-05- 07.	(1) The valid forms of identification are: a. A current driver's license or nondriver identification card issued by the department of transportation; b. An official form of identification issued by a tribal government; c. A long-term care certificate prescribed by the secretary of state, if the individual does not possess an official form of identification provided for under subdivision a or b; or d. For a uniformed service member or a qualifying family member temporarily stationed away from the individual's residence in the state or a qualified elector temporarily living outside the country, a current military identification card or passport if the individual does not possess an official form of identification provided for under subdivision a or b. (2)(a) When verifying an individual's eligibility or when entering the name of an individual into the pollbook, poll clerks shall request, correct, and update any incorrect or incomplete information about an individual required to be included in the pollbook generated from the central voter file. 2(b) If the individual's name is contained in the pollbook generated from the central voter file, the poll clerks shall verify the individual'residential address and mailing address, if different from the individual's residential address. 2(c) If the individual's name is not contained in the pollbook generated from the central voter file but the individual is determined eligible to vote, the poll clerks shall record the

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			individual' name in the pollbook. The poll clerks shall request and obtain any additional information for the individual required to be included in the pollbook. (3) Poll clerks shall direct an individual who is attempting to vote in the incorrect precinct or who does not meet the thirty-day residency requirement to the proper precinct and voting location. N.D. CENT. CODE § 16.1-05- 07
Ohio	At polling place: by any precinct election official. Not later than the 30th day before election: by any qualified to vote. OH. REV. CODE ANN. § 3505.20 (D).	At Polling Place: (A) The person is not a citizen. (B) The person has not resided in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the election. (C) The person is not a resident of the precinct where the person offers to vote. (D) The person is not of legal voting age. OH. REV. CODE ANN. § 3505.20. Challenges no more than 30 days before appear to be allowed on any grounds, including: Convicted felon incompetent to be elector or officeholder. *Id.* § 2961.01 Adjudicated incompetent to vote. *Id.* § 3503.18 Idiot or insane person not entitled to privileges of an elector. OH. CONST ART V § 6. Any of the precinct officials may challenge the right of the elector named on the identification envelope to vote the absent voter's ballots upon the ground that the signature on the envelope is not the same as the signature on the registration form, that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete, or upon any other of the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may be lawfully challenged. OH. REV. CODE ANN. § 3509.06(D)(2)(a).	Polling place challenges: If the precinct election officials cannot verify the qualifications of the person trying to vote, the voter may vote a provisional ballot. OH. REV. CODE ANN. § 3505.20. If the board of elections has ruled on the question presented by a challenge prior to election day, its finding and decision shall be final, and the voting location manager shall be notified in writing. If the board has not ruled, the question shall be determined as set forth in this section 3505.20. If any person is so challenged as unqualified to vote, the voting location manager shall tender the person the following oath: "You do swear or affirm under penalty of election falsification that you will fully and truly answer all of the following questions put to you concerning your qualifications as an elector at this election." *Id.* Code contains a series of questions to be asked where challenge is based on citizenship, residency in state or precinct, age, depending on the nature of the challenge. The voting location manager shall put such other questions to the person challenged as are necessary to determine the person's qualifications as an elector at the election. If a person challenged refuses to answer fully any question put to the person, is unable to answer the questions as they were answered on the registration form by the person under whose name the person offers to vote, or refuses to sign the person's name or make the person's mark, or if for any other reason a majority of the judges believes the person is not entitled to vote, the precinct election officials shall provide to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the board of

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			elections determines that the voter is properly registered and eligible to vote in the election. *Id.* (B) On receiving an application or challenge filed under this section 3503.24 relating to registration, the board of elections promptly shall review the board's records. If the board is able to determine that an application or challenge should be granted or denied solely on the basis of the records maintained by the board, the board immediately shall vote to grant or deny that application or challenge. If the board is not able to determine whether an application or challenge should be granted or denied solely on the basis of the records maintained by the board, the director shall promptly set a time and date for a hearing before the board. Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, the hearing shall be held, and the application or challenge shall be decided, no later than ten days after the board receives the application or challenge. The director shall send written notice to any elector whose right to vote is challenged and to any person whose name is alleged to have been omitted from a registration list. The notice shall inform the person of the time and date of the hearing, and of the person's right to appear and testify, call witnesses, and be represented by counsel. The notice shall be sent by first class mail no later than three days before the day of any scheduled hearing. The director shall also provide the person who filed the application or challenge with such written notice of the date and time of the hearing. At the request of either party or any member of the board, the board shall issue subpoenas to witnesses to appear and testify before the board at a hearing held under this section. All witnesses shall testify under oath. The board shall reach a decision on all applications and challenges immediately after hearing. (C) If the board decides that any such person is not entitled to have the person's name on the registration list, the person's name shall be removed from the list and the person's registration forms canceled. If the board decides that the name of any such person should appear on the registration list, it shall be added to the list, and the person's registration forms placed in the proper registration files. All such corrections and additions shall be made on a copy of

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			the precinct lists, which shall constitute the poll lists, to be furnished to the respective precincts with other election supplies on the day preceding the election, to be used by the election officials in receiving the signatures of voters and in checking against the registration forms. (D)(1) If an application or challenge for which a hearing is required to be conducted under division (B) of this section is filed after the thirtieth day before the day of an election, the board of elections, in its discretion, may postpone that hearing and any notifications of that hearing until after the day of the election. Any hearing postponed under this division shall be conducted not later than ten days after the day of the election. (2) The board of elections shall cause the name of any registered elector whose registration is challenged and whose challenge hearing is postponed under division (D)(1) of this section to be marked in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook for that elector's precinct to indicate that the elector's registration is subject to challenge. (3) Any elector who is the subject of an application or challenge hearing that is postponed under division (D)(1) of this section shall be permitted to vote a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The validity of a provisional ballot cast pursuant to this section shall be determined in accordance with section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, except that no such provisional ballot shall be counted unless the hearing conducted under division (B) of this section after the day of the election results in the elector's inclusion in the official registration list. *Id.* § 3503.24.
Oklahoma	.(repealed)		Persons who are not listed in the precinct registry, but who claim to be registered voters in the precinct and eligible to vote in the election, shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot upon execution of an affidavit prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board. 26 OKLA. STAT. § 7-116.1.
Oregon	The county clerk, an elections official or any elector shall challenge the ballot of any	(1) Every citizen of the United States is entitled to vote in all elections not otherwise provided for by this Constitution if such citizen:	The clerk, official or elector challenging the ballot shall make, under oath or affirmation before a county clerk or other elections official, a written and numbered statement of challenge. The statement shall

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	person offering to vote whom the clerk, official or elector knows or suspects not to be qualified as an elector. OR. REV. STAT. § 254.415. The county clerk, an elections official or any elector shall challenge the [absentee] ballot of any person offering to vote as an absent elector whom the clerk, official or elector knows or suspects not to be qualified as an elector. OR. REV. STAT. § 253.700.	(a) Is 18 years of age or older; (b) Has resided in this state during the six months immediately preceding the election, except that provision may be made by law to permit a person who has resided in this state less than 30 days immediately preceding the election, but who is otherwise qualified under this subsection, to vote in the election for candidates for nomination or election for President or Vice President of the United States or elector of President and Vice President of the United States; and (c) Is registered not less than 20 calendar days immediately preceding any election in the manner provided by law. OR. CONST. ART. II, § 2. A person suffering from a mental handicap is entitled to the full rights of an elector, if otherwise qualified, unless the person has been adjudicated incompetent to vote as provided by law. (emphasis added) *Id*. Art. II, § 3. Absentee ballot challengers shall challenge the [absentee] ballot of any person offering to vote as an absent elector whom the challenger knows or suspects not to be qualified as an elector. OR. REV. STAT. § 253.700.	contain the name and residence address of the challenger, the name of the person challenged and a statement of the facts upon which the challenge is based. OR. REV. STAT. § 254.415. A person's absentee ballot may be challenged at any time before the ballot is removed from its return envelope for processing. A challenge to an absentee ballot of a person offering to vote shall be made under oath or affirmation before the clerk and shall be in writing on a numbered challenge form. The statement shall contain the name and residence address of the challenger, the name of the person challenged and a statement of the facts upon which the challenge is based. Any elections official may administer the oath or affirmation required. OR. REV. STAT. § 253.700.
Pennsylvania	A commissioner, registrar, clerk, or qualified elector of the municipality may challenge. 25 PA. CONS. STAT. § 1329.	25 PA. CONS. STAT. § 1329 does not limit the grounds for making a challenge. Elector may be challenged as to identity and for being party to a bribe. 25 PA. CONS. STAT. §§ 3050, 3051.	To make a challenge, a complainant must file a challenge affidavit containing the following information: (1) Name of challenged individual; (2) address of challenged individual; (3) name of complainant; (4) address of complainant; (5) date of affidavit; and (6) reason for challenge. An individual who is challenged must respond to the challenge affidavit in a written statement sworn or affirmed by the individual. The challenged individual must produce such other evidence as may be required to satisfy the registrar or commissioner as to the individual's qualifications. If the challenged individual establishes to the satisfaction of the commission the right to be registered, the challenged individual shall be registered. Otherwise, the challenged individual's

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			registration shall be cancelled. 25 PA. CONS. STAT. § 1329. Ballots received whose applications have been challenged and ballots which have been challenged shall be placed unopened in a secure, safe and sealed container in the custody of the county board until it shall fix a time and place for a formal hearing of all such challenges, and notice shall be given where possible to all absentee electors and mail-in electors thus challenged and to every individual who made a challenge. The time for the hearing shall not be later than seven (7) days after the deadline for all challenges to be filed. On the day fixed for said hearing, the county board shall proceed without delay to hear said challenges, and, in hearing the testimony, the county board shall not be bound by the Pennsylvania Rules of Evidence. The testimony presented shall be stenographically recorded and made part of the record of the hearing.. Any person challenging an application for an absentee ballot or an absentee ballot for any of the reasons provided herein shall deposit $10 in cash with the local election board or county board, depending on whom the challenge was made (may be refunded if challenge is sustained or timely withdrawn). *Id.* § 3146.8(f), (g).
Rhode Island	The watchers (1 per party per polling place) and any election official shall have the right to challenge the right to vote of any person offering himself or herself as a voter. R.I. GEN. LAWS § 17-19-22.	Identity is the only grounds mentioned. R.I. GEN. LAWS § 17-19-27. With respect to absentee ballots, the state board shall establish guidelines setting for the grounds for challenging the certification of mail ballots. These guidelines shall recognize that if a ballot can be reasonably identified to be that of the voter it purports to be, and if it can reasonably be determined that the voter was eligible to vote by mail ballot and if the requirements of section 17-20-2.1 (relating to the validity of the mail ballot and application) were complied with, it should not be subject to frivolous or technical challenge. The guidelines shall be adopted at a public meeting of the board and shall be made available prior to the start of the certification process for mail ballots. *Id.* § 17-20-26(e).	Whenever the identity of any person offering to vote is challenged at the polling place, that person shall be permitted to vote only using a provisional ballot (cast in accord w/ HAVA). R.I. GEN. LAWS § 17-19-27. The burden of proof in challenging a mail ballot as not obtained and/or cast in conformance with the provisions set forth in the mail ballots chapter is on the person challenging the ballot. Once the irregularity is shown, the burden shall shift to the person defending the ballot to demonstrate that it is the ballot of the voter it purports to be, that the voter was eligible to vote by mail ballot, and that all of the applicable requirements of section 17- 20-2.1 (relating to the validity of the mail ballot and application) were complied with. *Id.* §17-20-26(e). The board of elections shall, on its own motion, disqualify any mail ballot which it determines, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, was not voted by the elector who purportedly cast it, or

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			was voted by an elector who was not eligible to vote by mail ballot, or was not obtained and voted in the manner prescribed by this chapter governing mail ballots. The board of elections may take this action even in the absence of a challenge to the ballot and may take this action at any time prior to the separation of the ballot from its application and certifying envelope. *Id.* § 17-20-33.
South Carolina	It is the duty of the managers of election to, and any elector or qualified watcher may, challenge the vote of a person who may be known or suspected not to be a qualified voter. However, the challenges by persons other than a manager must be addressed to the manager and not directly to the voter. S.C. CODE ANN. § 7-13-810.	If not a registered elector or who has become disqualified for any cause to vote in the voting precinct. S.C. CODE ANN. § 7-13-810. A person is disqualified from being registered or voting if he: (1) is mentally incompetent as adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction; or (2) is serving a term of imprisonment resulting from a conviction of a crime; or (3) is convicted of a felony or offenses against the election laws, unless the disqualification has been removed by service of the sentence, including probation and parole time unless sooner pardoned. *Id.* § 7-5-120.	When any person is so challenged, the manager must explain to him the qualifications of an elector and may examine his as to the same. If the person insists that he is qualified and the challenge is not withdrawn, his provisional vote must be received and placed in an envelope on which must be written the name of the voter and that of the challenger. The provisional votes must be kept separate and apart and not counted but turned over to the commissioners of election or other authority having supervision of the election. S.C. CODE ANN. § 7-13-830. With respect to absentee ballots that are challenged, the return-addressed envelope must not be opened, but must be put aside and the procedure set forth in section 7-13-830 must be utilized; but the absentee voter must be given reasonable notice of the challenged ballot. *Id.* § 7-15-420.
South Dakota	Election board members and poll watchers. S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 12-18- 6.3.	If a person makes an application for ballots, or if an absentee ballot has been cast, the person's right to vote at that poll and election may be challenged only as to the person's identity as the person registered whom the person claims to be or on grounds that within fifteen days preceding the election the person has been convicted of a felony or declared by proper authority to be mentally incompetent. S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 12-18-10	If identity cannot be proven to the satisfaction of the member of the precinct election board or if the person making an application for ballots is challenged on the basis of identity by a member or a poll watcher, the person may vote a provisional ballot. S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 12-18-6.3. The proceedings shall be conducted before the precinct superintendent and precinct deputies who shall determine from the evidence presented whether or not the person is permitted to vote and the members of the precinct election board shall indicate beside the name on the registration list the ground stated and the result of the precinct election board's decision. *Id.* § 12-18-10. If the person maintains that he or she is currently registered to vote in that precinct, the person may cast a ballot which shall be called a

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			provisional ballot. A member of the precinct election board shall notify any person who is denied the ability to vote that the person may cast a provisional ballot. *Id.* § 12-18-39.
Tennessee	A person's right to vote may be challenged by any person present at the polling place TENN. CODE ANN. § 2-7-123.	A person offering to vote may be challenged only on the grounds that the person: (1) Is not a registered voter in Tennessee and did not vote a provisional ballot; (2) Is not a resident of the precinct where the person seeks to vote; (3) Is not the registered voter under whose name the person has applied to vote; (4) Has already voted in the election; or (5) Has become ineligible to vote in the election being conducted at the polling place since the person registered. TENN. CODE ANN. § 2-7-124	If any person's right to vote is challenged, the judges shall present the challenge to the person and decide the challenge after administering an oath to the challenged voter. A person who refuses to take the oath may not vote. TENN. CODE ANN. § 2-7-123. The judges may ask any question which is material to deciding the challenge and may put under oath and ask questions of such persons as they deem necessary to their decision. *Id.* § 2-7-124. (a) If the judges determine unanimously that the person is not entitled to vote, the person shall vote by paper ballot and the person's ballot shall be deposited in a sealed envelope marked "Rejected" with the person's name, the reason for rejection, and the signatures of the judges written on it. (b) If the judges do not agree unanimously to rejection, the person shall be permitted to vote as if unchallenged. (c) In either case the challenge and outcome shall be noted on the back of the voter's duplicate permanent registration record and on the poll lists. *Id.* § 2-7-125. Provisions in chapter 7 with respect to challenge and poll watchers apply to the central absentee ballot counting board. A poll watcher may not leave and reenter the absentee ballot counting after the challenge process has been completed and the counting board begins to count the votes without the permission of the administrator of elections or the administrator's designee. *Id.* § 2-6-305.
Texas	A registered voter may challenge the registration of another voter of the same county at a hearing before the registrar.	On a specific qualification for registration that the challenged voter has not met. TEX. ELEC. CODE ANN. § 16.092. Qualifications for registration:	A voter desiring to challenge a registration must file with the registrar a sworn statement of the grounds for the challenge that: (1) identifies the voter whose registration is being challenged; and (2) states a specific qualification for registration that the challenged voter has not met based on the personal knowledge of the voter

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	TEX. ELEC. CODE ANN. § 16.091.	(1) is 18 years of age or older; (2) is a United States citizen; (3) has not been determined to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote by a final judgment of a court; (4) has not been finally convicted of a felony or, if so convicted, has: (A) fully discharged the person's sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole, or supervision, or completed a period of probation ordered by any court; or (B) been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability to vote; (5) is a resident of this state; and (6) is a registered voter. *Id.* § 11.002.	desiring to challenge the registration. TEX. ELEC. CODE ANN. § 16.092. On the filing of a sworn statement, the registrar shall schedule a hearing on the challenge. The hearing procedure does not apply to an allegation of a ground based on residence. The registrar shall conduct the hearing not later than the 20th day after the date the statement is filed or on a later date requested by either party and agreed to by both parties. A party may appear personally at the hearing to offer evidence or argument. A party may offer evidence or argument by affidavit without personally appearing if the party submits the affidavit to the registrar before the hearing begins. *Id.* § 16.093. After hearing and considering the evidence or argument, the registrar shall promptly determine the challenge and issue a decision in writing. If the registrar determines that the voter's registration should be canceled, the registrar shall cancel the registration on the 31st day after the date the registrar's decision is issued. If the registrar determines that the voter's registration should not be canceled, the registration continues in effect. *Id.* § 16.095.
Utah	Anyone may challenge in writing not later no later than 45 days before the date of the election UTAH.CODE ANN. § 20A-3a- 804. A poll worker or a person who lives in the jurisdiction may challenge at the time of voting. UTAH.CODE ANN. § 20A- 3a- 805.	A person's right to vote may be challenged because: (a) the voter is not the person whose name appears in the official register or under which name the right to vote is claimed; (b) the voter is not a resident of Utah; (c) the voter is not a citizen of the United States; (d) the voter has not or will not have resided in Utah for 30 days immediately before the date of the election; (e) the voter's principal place of residence is not in the voting precinct claimed; (f) the voter's principal place of residence is not in the geographic boundaries of the election area; (g) the voter has already voted in the election;	Challenger must state in writing (1) name of person challenged, (2) challenger's name, and (3) basis for challenge under section 20A-3-202 (see "On What Grounds" column). UTAH.CODE ANN. § 20A-3a-805(22). When presented with a challenge the poll worker shall: (a) request that the person provide valid voter identification; and (b) review the identification provided by the person. If the poll worker is satisfied that the person has provided valid voter identification that establishes the person's identity and residence in the voting precinct or within the county: (a) the poll worker in charge of the official register shall: (i)record in the official register the type of identification that established the person's identity and place of residence; (ii) write the provisional ballot envelope number opposite the name of the voter in the

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		(h) the voter is not at least 18 years of age; (i) the voter has been convicted of a misdemeanor for an offense under this title and the voter's right to vote in an election has not been restored under section 20A-2-101.3; (j) the voter is a convicted felon and the voter's right to vote in an election has not been restored under section 20A-2-101.5; or (k) in a regular primary election or in the Western States Presidential Primary, the voter does not meet the political party affiliation requirements for the ballot the voter seeks to vote. UTAH.CODE ANN. § 20A-3a- 803.	official register; and (iii) direct the voter to sign his name in the election column in the official register; (b) another poll worker shall list the ballot number and voter's name in the pollbook; and (c) the poll worker having charge of the ballots shall: (i) endorse his initials on the stub; (ii) check the name of the voter on the pollbook list with the number of the stub; (iii) give the voter a ballot and a provisional ballot envelope; and (iv) allow the voter to enter the voting booth. If the poll worker is not satisfied that the voter has provided valid voter identification that establishes the person's identity and residence in the voting precinct or within the county: (a) the poll worker in charge of the official register shall: (i) record in the official register that the voter did not provide valid voter identification; (ii) record in the official register the type of identification that was provided by the voter, if any; (iii) write the provisional ballot envelope number opposite the name of the voter in the official register; and (iv) direct the voter to sign his name in the election column in the official register; (b) another poll worker shall list the ballot number and voter's name in the pollbook; and (c) the poll worker having charge of the ballots shall: (i) endorse his initials on the stub; (ii) check the name of the voter on the pollbook list with the number of the stub; (iii) give the voter a ballot and a provisional ballot envelope; and (iv) allow the voter to enter the voting booth. *Id.* §20A-3a-205.
Vermont	Each organized political party, each candidate on the ballot not representing an organized political party, and each committee supporting or opposing any public question on the ballot shall have the right to have not more than two representatives outside the guardrail for the purpose	Limited to: -Voter who has previously voted -Voter is not the person whose name appears on the checklist. VT. STAT ANN. tit.17, § 2564.	If a challenge is issued, the members of the board of civil authority present in the polling place shall immediately convene, informally hear the facts, and decide whether the challenge should be sustained. If the board overrules the challenge, the person shall immediately be admitted within the guardrail and permitted to vote. If the board sustains the challenge, the person shall not be admitted unless, before the polls close, he shall obtain a court order directing that he be permitted to vote. VT. STAT. ANN. tit.17, § 2564.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
	of observing the voting process and challenging the right of any person to vote VT. STAT. ANN. tit.17, § 2564.		
Virginia	Any qualified voter and election officers. VA. CODE ANN. § 24.2-651.	- Not a US citizen - Not 18 or over or, in the case of a primary election or a special election held on a date other than a general election date, will not reach the age of 18 before the next general election - Not a VA resident for 30 days - Not a resident of the precinct - Not a resident of town in town election - Disqualified from voting by Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth - Not who he claims to be - Already voted VA. CODE ANN. § 24.2-651. Qualifications: "no person adjudicated to be mentally incompetent shall be qualified to vote until his competency has been reestablished." VA CONST. ART. 2, § 1.	The challenger must swear an affidavit stating the grounds for the challenge When any person is challenged, an officer shall explain to him the qualifications of a voter and may examine him concerning his qualifications. If the challenge is not withdrawn and the voter maintains he is qualified, he shall be permitted to vote if he signs a statement asserting he is qualified. If the person challenged refuses to sign the statement, he shall not be permitted to vote. VA. CODE ANN. § 24.2-651.
Washington	Another registered voter or the county prosecuting attorney. WASH. REV. CODE § 29A.08.810(2).	A challenge to a person's right to vote must be based on personal knowledge of one of the following: (a) The challenged voter has been convicted of a felony and the voter's civil rights have not been restored; (b) The challenged voter has been judicially declared ineligible to vote due to mental incompetency; (c) The challenged voter does not live at the residential address provided... [provides additional procedure in this case]	The challenger must file a signed affidavit swearing that, to his or her personal knowledge and belief the challenged voter either is not qualified to vote or does not reside at the address given on his or her voter registration record. The challenger must provide the factual basis for the challenge in the signed affidavit. The challenge may not be based on unsupported allegations or allegations by anonymous third parties. All documents pertaining to the challenge are public records. WASH. REV. CODE §29A.08.810(3)

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		d) The challenged voter will not be eighteen years of age by the next election; or (e) The challenged voter is not a citizen of the United States. WASH. REV. CODE § 29A.08.810(1).	Challenges based on a felony conviction under Wash. Rev. Code §29A.08.520 must be heard according to Wash. Rev. Code §29A.08.520 and rules adopted by the secretary of state. *Id.* §29A.08.810(4). If the challenge is in proper form and the factual basis meets the legal grounds for a challenge, the county auditor must notify the challenged voter and provide a copy of the affidavit. The county auditor must schedule a hearing and notify the challenger and the challenged voter of the time and place for the hearing. The challenger has the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the challenged voter's registration is improper. The challenged voter must be provided a reasonable opportunity to respond. If the challenge is to the residential address provided by the voter, the challenged voter may provide evidence that he or she resides at the location described in his or her voter's registration records, or meets of the exceptions allowed. If either the challenger or challenged voter fails to appear at the hearing, the challenge must be resolved based on the available facts. *Id.* §29A.08.840(1-4). If the challenge is based on an allegation under Wash. Rev. Code §29A.08.810(1) (a), (b), (d), or (e) and the canvassing board sustains the challenge, the challenged ballot shall not be counted. If the challenge is based on an allegation under Wash. Rev. Code §29A.08.810(1)(c) and the canvassing board sustains the challenge, the board shall permit the voter to correct his or her voter registration and any races and ballot measures on the challenged ballot that the voter would have been qualified to vote for had the registration been correct shall be counted. *Id.* §29A.08.840(5). (1) Challenges must be filed with the county auditor of the county in which the challenged voter is registered no later than forty-five days before the election. The county auditor presides over the hearing. (2) Only if the challenged voter registered to vote less than sixty days before the election, or changed residence less than sixty days before the election without transferring his or her registration, may a challenge be filed not later than ten days before any primary or

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
			election, general or special, or within ten days of the voter being added to the voter registration database, whichever is later. (a) If the challenge is filed within forty-five days before an election at which the challenged voter is eligible to vote, a notation of the challenge must be made immediately in the voter registration system, and the county canvassing board presides over the hearing. (b) If the challenge is filed before the challenged voter's ballot is received, the ballot must be treated as a challenged ballot. (c) If the challenge is filed after the challenged voter's ballot is received, the challenge cannot affect the current election. *Id.* § 29A.08.820
West Virginia	Any qualified voter W. VA. CODE § 3-1-39 Members of the receiving board *Id.* § 3-1-41	Any qualified voter may challenge if he suspects "illegal voting" W. VA. CODE § 3-1-39. Members of receiving board shall challenge: (1) If the person's registration record is not available at the time of the election; (2) If the signature written by the person in the poll book does not correspond with the signature purported to be his or hers on the registration record; (3) If the registration record of the person indicates any other legal disqualification; or (4) If any other valid challenge exists against the voter. *Id.* § 3-1-41. Qualifications: To be qualified, a person must be a citizen of the U.S. and a legal resident of West Virginia and of the county where he or she is applying to register, and shall be at least 18 years old. Any person who has been convicted of a felony, treason or bribery in an election, under either state or federal law, is disqualified and is not eligible to register or to continue to be registered to vote while serving his or her sentence, including any period of incarceration, probation or parole related thereto. Any person who has been	A voter making a challenge must swear and sign an affidavit explaining why s/he believes the challenged voter is voting illegally. W. VA. CODE § 3-1-39 Any voter who requests assistance in voting an absent voter's ballot but who is determined by the official designated to supervise and conduct absentee voting not to be qualified for assistance under the provisions of sections 3-3-4 and 3-1-34 may vote a challenged absent voter's ballot with the assistance of any person authorized to render assistance pursuant to section 3-3-4. The election commissioner(s) or poll clerk(s) making a challenge shall enter the challenge and reason for the challenge on the form and in the manner prescribed or authorized by provisions governing absentee voting. The official designated to supervise and conduct absentee voting shall enter the name of each voter receiving challenged assistance, the address of that voter, the reason for the challenge and the name of the person providing the challenged assistance. *Id.* § 3-3-4. Absent voters' ballots challenged by the official designated to supervise and conduct absentee voting are to be transmitted by the official directly to the county commission sitting as a board of canvassers. The absent voters' ballots challenged by the election commissioners and poll clerks may not be counted by the election officials but are to be transmitted by them to the county commission sitting as a board of canvassers. Action by the board of canvassers on challenged absent voters' ballots is to be governed by

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		determined to be mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction is disqualified and shall not be eligible to register or to continue to be registered to vote for as long as that disability continues. *Id.* § 3-2-2 With respect to absentee ballot voters who require assistance, the official designated to supervise and conduct absentee voting shall challenge the absent voter's ballot on the basis of his or her determination that the voter is not qualified for assistance. Any one or more of the election commissioners or poll clerks in the precinct to which an absent voter's ballot has been sent may challenge the ballot on the ground that the voter received assistance in voting it when in his opinion: (1) the person who received the assistance in voting the absent voter's ballot did not require assistance; or (2) the person who provided the assistance in voting did not make an affidavit as required by section 3-3-4. *Id.* § 3-3-4. In the event a person applies for and receives an absentee ballot, votes in person and does not return the ballot, s/he will have his or her vote challenged by one or more of the election commissioners or poll clerks. *Id.* § 3-3-9. The official designated to supervise and conduct absentee voting, election commissioners or polls clerks in a precinct may challenge an absent voter's ballot on any of the following grounds. Where applicable, the parenthetical after any ground for challenge indicates who may challenge when otherwise the challenge may be made by any of the previously listed officials: (1) application has not been completed; (2) any statement/declaration in the application is not true; (3) applicant is not registered to vote in the precinct of his/her residence;	the provisions of section 3-1-41. *Id.* § 3-3-10.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
		(4) the signatures of the person voting a ballot as they appear on his registration, application, and ballot envelope are not in the same handwriting (commissioners and poll clerks only) (5) person voting an absent voter's ballot by personal appearance had assistance in voting when the person was not qualified for assistance because: (a) the affidavit of the person receiving assistance does not indicate a legally sufficient reason for assistance; (b) voter receiving assistance did not make an affidavit; or (c) the person who received assistance is not sufficiently illiterate to have been unable to read the names or physically disabled to have been unable to see/mark the ballot; (6) that the person who voted an absent voter's ballot by mail and received assistance in voting was not qualified (see section 3-3-4 above); and (7) the person has voted absentee by mail as a result of being out of the county more than 4 consecutive times (there are applicable exclusions for, e.g., college students) (supervisor only); (8) absentee voter voted in person at the polls on election day (commissioners and poll clerks only); (9) the absent uniformed service member was present in the county in which s/he was registered between the opening and closing of the polls on election day (commissioners and poll clerks only); and (10) on any other ground or for any reason on which or for which the ballot of a voter voting in person at the polls on election day may be challenged (commissioners and poll clerks only). Those voting by absentee ballot during the period of early voting in person may not be challenged. *Id.* § 3-3-10.	
Wisconsin	Any elector may challenge the right to vote when they know	Elector qualifications:	You will be asked to swear under oath that you are an eligible voter.

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
	or suspect that a person is not a qualified elector. WIS. STAT. § 6.925	(1) The elector must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, who has resided in an election district or ward for 28 consecutive days before any election where the citizen offers to vote. (2) Any U.S. citizen who is at least 18 years of age who moved within the state later than 28 days before an election shall vote at his or her previous ward or election district if the person is otherwise qualified. If the elector can comply with the 28-day residence requirement at the new address or is otherwise qualified, he or she may vote in the new ward or election district. WIS. STAT. § 6.02 Disqualifications of electors: (1)(a): Any person who is incapable of understanding the objective of the elective process or who is under guardianship, unless the court has determined that the person is competent to exercise the right to vote. No person may be denied the right to register or vote by reason of alleged incapable understanding unless the person has been adjudicated incompetent in the state. (1)(b): Any person convicted of treason, felony or bribery, unless the person's right to vote is restored through a pardon or under s. 304.078 (3). (2) No person shall be allowed to vote in any election in which the person has made or become interested, directly or indirectly, in any bet or wager depending upon the result of the election. WIS. STAT. § 6.03	The election official will only make you respond to the questions pertaining to the challenger's specific concerns about your eligibility. If you refuse to take the oath, if you refuse to answer the questions fully, or if you answer that you are not eligible, you will not be allowed to vote. If you take the oath and answer all the questions to swear that you are an eligible voter, you will be given a ballot. The election official will put an identifying number on the outside of your ballot. You will be able to vote and your vote will be counted. After the election, the municipality will investigate the challenge. If you lose the challenge because you were not eligible to vote, your ballot will be withdrawn and not counted. However, if you win the challenge, your vote will continue to be counted. WIS. STAT. §§ 6.94-6.95 The vote of any absent elector may be challenged for cause and the inspectors of election shall have all the power and authority given them to hear and determine the legality of the ballot the same as if the ballot had been voted in person. In municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under section 7.52, the vote of an absentee elector may be challenged as provided in section 7.52(5). *Id*. § 6.93.
Wyoming	It is the duty of the judges to challenge electors whenever existence of legal grounds for doing so is known or apparent to the judges. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 22-15-108.	A person offering to vote may be challenged for the following reasons: (i) Not a qualified elector; (ii) Not entitled to vote in the precinct; (iii) Name does not appear on poll list and the person cannot meet the requirements to register at the polls;	When person offering to vote at an election is challenged, he is required to take the prescribed oath that he is a qualified voter and also to deliver to the judges of election an affidavit of two qualified electors of that precinct stating that the person offering to vote is qualified. Pratley v. State, 99 P. 1116 (1909). Also, a person challenged on the ground that his name does not appear on the poll list may vote if a judge of election obtains

State	Who can challenge	On what Grounds	Process/Evidence Required
	A poll watcher is authorized to observe voter turn out and registration and may make written memoranda but shall not challenge voters, conduct electioneering activities or disrupt the polling process. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 22-15-109(b).	(iv) Not the person he represents himself to be; (v) Has already voted. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 22-15-104. Voter qualifications: (i) He is a citizen of the United States; (ii) He will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the day of the next election; (iii) He is a bona fide resident of Wyoming; (iv) He is not currently adjudicated mentally incompetent; (v) He has not been convicted of a felony, or if convicted has had his civil or voting rights restored. *Id.* §22-3-102.	verification from the county clerk that the person is entitled to vote in that election within that county. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 22-15-106. If a person offering to vote is challenged, and the challenge is not resolved in accordance with Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 22-15-106, an election judge shall offer the voter a ballot clearly marked "provisional" and which cannot be automatically tabulated. A person challenged on any ground may vote by provisional ballot, if he subscribes this oath in writing before a judge of election: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the person I represent myself to be and that I am a qualified elector entitled to vote in this precinct at this election and that this is the only ballot I have or will vote in this election." The oath required by this section shall be printed on the provisional ballot envelope. A challenged voter may present information and documentation of his eligibility to register at the election or to vote to the county clerk until the close of business on the day following the election. Any information presented shall be considered by the canvassing board in determining the voter's eligibility to register at the election or to vote and whether to open and count his provisional ballot. The provisional ballot shall be counted only after the voter has, by presenting documentation required under this code to the county clerk, established he had previously registered and is a qualified elector or he was eligible to register at the election and is a qualified elector. *Id.* § 22-15-105.