



# *2026 Washington State Midterm Elections*

Washington State  
Senior Citizens' Lobby  
May 18, 2026

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# Washington 2026 Midterms- Key Dates

## Primary Election

- Filing week-May 5-May 8
- SOS certification of candidates-May 12
- Ballots available-July 15
- August 4 Primary Election

## General Election

- Ballots available-October 14
- Nov 3 General Election
- SOS certification of election-December 3

## Initiative Deadlines

- Initiatives to the People: July 2 by 5:00 pm; 308,911 voter signatures
- Initiatives to the Legislature: December 31 by 5:00 pm; 308,911 voter signatures

# Washington 2026 Midterm Elections

On the Ballot: more than 1,107 candidates running for 602 offices (*Secretary of State*)

- WA Supreme Court Judges-5 seats
- All 98 seats in the WA State House of Representatives
- 24/49 seats in the WA State Senate
- Lots of local government races



# Washington 2026 Midterms: Some Issues to Watch

- State Legislature: will see changes in both the House & Senate
- State Supreme Court Races: unusual number of seats on the ballot (5)
- Redistricting/Proposed Changes to Voting: Supreme Court decision; other efforts that could undermine free & fair elections
- Initiatives: IL26-001; IL26-638; IP26-500; IP26-645...and perhaps others

# Washington 2026 Midterms- State Legislature

- All 98 seats in the WA State House of Representatives on the ballot.
- 24/49 seats in the WA State Senate subject to election.
- Some long-time legislators leaving; most incumbents have challengers...some from the same party.
- Democrats hold a 53-39 majority in House; 30-19 in Senate.

# Washington 2026 Midterms: State Supreme Court

Five (out of nine) seats on the ballot, and all have opponents. Except for Position 1, all terms are six years.

- Position 1-currently filled by appointee (Melody who replaced Yu); three candidates (two years remaining in term)
- Position 3-incumbent not running (Montoya-Lewis); three candidates
- Position 4-incumbent subject to mandatory retirement (Charles Johnson); two candidates
- Position 5-currently filled by appointee (Angelis who replaced Madsen); four candidates
- Position 7-incumbent running (Stephens); four candidates

# Washington 2026 Midterms Redistricting & Voting

- ▶ Challenges to free and fair elections, i.e., S.1383, the *SAVE America Act*; *March 31 Executive Order 14399*
- ▶ U.S. Supreme Court direction in LA v. Callais-curtails the use of race in drawing legislative boundaries.  
Implications for WA State

▶ **LWV Condemns SCOTUS Ruling Dismantling the Bedrock of Civil Rights Law**

▶ **The LWVWA joins with the LWV of the United States □ and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights □ in condemning the Supreme Court's action Wednesday that effectively guts a provision of the landmark Voting Rights Act that prevents racial discrimination.**

▶ **In rendering Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act ineffective, the court has removed the most important tool of the 1965 civil rights law that ensured Black voters and other voters of color had equal opportunity in redistricting and elections. This ruling has opened a path to significant changes in representation.**

▶ **The League and its members reject racial discrimination and we will fight with great fervor for a multi-racial democracy in which all of us have an equal voice.**

# Washington 2026 Midterms

## *LA v. Callais-Implications for WA State*

According to the Washington State Standard:

- ▶ Court-ordered redistricting to enhance voice of Latino voters in Yakima Valley in 2024 shifted more than 300,000 people across 13 districts in WA state
- ▶ Last week, challengers (petitioners to the State Supreme Court) asked the US district court judge (Lasnik) to undo decision based on LA v. Callais and restore boundaries from the redistricting commission in 2021
- ▶ SOS Steve Hobbs said the request is “a recipe for chaos” with likely delay in the primary election
- ▶ In an order last Friday, Lasnik ruled that Trevino and Ybarra (challengers) don’t have standing to file their motion to have the revised map tossed out.

# General Election-Initiatives

- IL26-001: reinstate I-2081, the Parent Bill of Rights (reversing legislative changes in ESHB 1296)
- IP26-500 (formerly 26-126): increase voter registration requirements, e.g., enhanced driver's license or documentary proof of US citizenship-subject to signature gathering (July 2 deadline). **Decline to Sign!**
- IL26-638: prohibits “biologically male” students from competing in sports intended for female students only; *sex verification required for all girls in sports*
- IP26-645: repeal SB 6346 (Millionaires Tax)-subject to signature gathering (July 2 deadline). **Decline to Sign!**

# Primary Election Reminders - Aug 4, 2026



Voters can register:

- ▶ By July 27-Online and mail registrations must be received 8 days before election day.
- ▶ On August 4-Register to vote or update your registration in person up to 8:00 pm on Election Day.

To Vote:

- ▶ Ballots must be in an official drop box by 8:00 pm on Election Day; or
- ▶ Postmarked by Election Day (not recommended, use drop box instead!)

# Recommendation-Use a drop box to be sure your ballot is counted

▶ Thank you!



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# Washington 2026 Midterms *Resources*

- ▶ Secretary of State-Elections: Home | WA Secretary of State
- ▶ Washington State Standard-Home • Washington State Standard
- ▶ League of Women Voters-League of Women Voters of Washington - Be a Voter Toolkit
- ▶ No Hate in Wa State-NO HATE in WA State Oppose IL26-001, IL26-638