



PRESS RELEASE
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**Indiana Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Public Meeting: *Voting Rights in Indiana***

Indianapolis, IN –The Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a series of public meetings to discuss the status of voting rights in Indiana. These meetings are intended to examine current challenges to voting rights facing diverse communities in Indiana. The Committee will hear testimony from community members, advocates, academics, legal professionals, and government officials. Members of the public will be invited to speak during an open comment period at all meetings. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to mwrointern2@usccr.gov by Monday April 2, 2018. The meetings will take place:

- **Monday, February 12, 2018** from 3:00 - 4:30 pm EST via webinar (audio, dial: 877-419-6590, conference ID: 9439336; visual: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/b42fl0vd2g3e&eom>);
- **Saturday, February 17, 2018** from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm CST at The Evansville Central Library, 200 SE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Evansville, IN 47713 (open comment period only, no panel presentations);
- **Friday, March 2, 2018**, from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm EST at Ivy Tech Community College Event Center, 2820 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46208.

The Committee will examine concerns regarding access to voting in Indiana. Committee Chair, Diane Clements-Boyd said, “The right to vote in American elections is the cornerstone of our democracy. The Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hear testimony from Hoosiers that have faced barriers to voting or were denied access to the ballot. In an effort to ensure that the franchise is accessible to all eligible voters, the Indiana Advisory Committee urges public involvement to better identify and understand barriers to voter access and participation in Indiana.”

This study is in support of the Commission’s 2018 Statutory Enforcement Report on voting rights in the United States. The Indiana Committee will issue findings and recommendations in a report to the Commission after all testimony has been received.

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 51 state Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).