



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

The Ohio 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 Ohio. These meetings are intended to examine current challenges to voting rights facing diverse communities in Ohio. The Committee will hear testimony from community members, advocates, academics, and government officials. Members of the public will be invited to speak during an open comment period near the end of each meeting. The Committee will also accept written testimony submitted to mwojnaroski@usccr.gov by Monday April 9, 2018. The meetings will take place:

- **Friday, March 2, 2018** from 11:30am - 1:00 pm EST via webinar (audio, dial: 877-741-4240, conference ID: 7829359; visual: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/kyos4gwgpp5&eom>);
- **Friday March 9, 2018** from 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm EST via webinar (audio, dial: 877-718-5095, conference ID: 6801605; visual: <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/ray86wto2gi&eom>)

The Committee will examine concerns regarding access to voting in Ohio. The Committee first began its study of voting rights in March of 2006. The Committee is seeking updated testimony to identify the extent to which concerns raised in 2006 have been addressed, and any areas where new concerns may be present. Committee Chair, Diane Citrino said, “Voting rights are fundamental to our democracy. We look forward to an open conversation to learn more about voting in Ohio with our panelists and the public. We hope you will join us.”

This study is in support of the Commission’s 2018 Statutory Enforcement Report on voting rights in the United States. The Ohio 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](#).