

Comparison of West Virginia election law and the *Freedom to Vote Act*

September 29, 2021

This brief aims to highlight the biggest similarities and differences between the *Freedom to Vote Act* and West Virginia election law. Data is collected from the Gerrymandering Threat Index, West Virginia statute, the West Virginia Ethics Website, West Virginia voter resources, and various other sources (linked). Analysis is organized under 11 categories:

- [Voter Registration](#), [Voting Rights Restoration](#), & [Voter Roll Maintenance](#)
- [In-person Voting](#), [Vote by Mail](#), & [Election Day Holiday](#)
- [Voter ID/Identity Verification](#)
- [Ballot Counting](#) & [Election Security](#)
- [Congressional Redistricting](#)
- [Campaign Finance](#)

Findings

The *Freedom to Vote Act* is modeled after West Virginia election law **in roughly two-thirds of the key policies analyzed**. These similarities are significant, particularly because the different roles played by federal and state governments in election law make total overlap unlikely.

Broadly, the issue areas with the most alignment include [voter ID](#), [voter registration](#) (automatic voter registration in particular), **and** [voting rights restoration](#). Areas where West Virginia and the *Freedom to Vote Act* are least similar include **early voting** ([in-person voting](#)), [vote by mail](#), and [congressional redistricting](#).

Comparison of Key Policies

Voter Registration

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
Automatic Voter Registration Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front-End. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front-End. 	Yes
Automatic Voter Registration Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DMV only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DMV. 	Yes
Same Day Voter Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes -- But will only be offered at a limited number of locations in 2022 to accommodate areas with implementation challenges (like rural communities). States may request the same treatment in 2024, but not beyond that. 	<p>No</p> <p>Note: Although the FTVA's final proposal is different from West Virginia law, the FTVA's support for phased implementation of same day registration is a compromise built to address administrability concerns posed by West Virginia election clerks.</p>
Online registration options?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	Yes
Voter Registration Deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 days before the election (or the first day after that is not a holiday/Sat/Sun). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every state (though not necessarily every jurisdiction) will offer some form of same day registration. 	<p>No</p> <p>Note: Although the FTVA's final proposal is different from West Virginia law, the FTVA's support for phased implementation of same day registration is a compromise built to address administrability concerns posed by West Virginia election clerks.</p>
Pre-registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes -- for minors who will be 18 by the next general election. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes -- 16 year olds can pre-register. 	Yes
Who can challenge voter's eligibility to vote?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any clerk of a county commission, political party chair, county registrar, the secretary of state, or voter who arrives at the clerk's office in person may submit a challenge to registration that results in a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to election officials, others may submit challenges to voter registration. However, the FTVA places strict limitations on when that may be, and any challenge must be backed up by personal knowledge 	Somewhat

	notice requiring follow up.	documented in writing. The individual challenging is also subject to an oath/attestation under penalty of perjury.	
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Voting Rights Restoration

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
<i>Is there felony re-enfranchisement after a person has finished their sentence and paid all fines?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	Yes
<i>Is there felony re-enfranchisement for parolees and individuals on probation?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	No
<i>Is there felony re-enfranchisement for all individuals, regardless of sentence type?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. 	Yes

Voter Roll Maintenance

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
<i>Voter roll purges allowed?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Virginia completes frequent cleaning of its voter roll, targeting people who have died, moved, or been convicted of a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits voter caging, using unverified match lists to purge voter rolls, and preventing challenges against voter 	<p>Mostly</p> <p>Note: Some practices employed by West Virginia currently may not reach the FTVA's</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> felony. WV also utilizes “confirmation cards” to notify voters that they must either update their voter registration or vote within four years to maintain their registration. 	<p>eligibility when the challenger knows the voter is eligible. Affirms states are eligible to use objective and reliable evidence to remove voters from the rolls, including official government records that indicate a person has died or moved.</p>	<p>standards, but others do, and the FTVA affirms states’ rights to use objective and reliable evidence.</p>
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In-Person Voting

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
Early voting for all elections?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes -- all federal. 	Yes
Early Voting Start Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 days before election day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No later than 15 days before the election. 	Yes
Early Voting End Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 days before election day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ends no earlier than 2 days before election day. 	Yes
Total Early Voting Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 days. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 14 days (though offers greater flexibility to VBM jurisdictions). 	Yes Note: Although West Virginia and FTVA standards are quite similar, the FTVA offers a few more days of early voting.
Style of Early Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-person absentee (unlike mailed absentee, this is available to all WV voters). <i>Note: From the voter’s perspective in-person absentee and election day style are similar. However, in-person absentee requires a voter to use an absentee ballot instead of a regular one.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Election Day Style. <i>Note: This is voting with a regular ballot.</i> 	No

Required Locations -- Early Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courthouse or Courthouse Annex. • All other locations chosen by local election authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling places must be accessible from public transportation, readily available in rural areas, available on college campuses. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat</p> <p>Note: Although West Virginia and the FTVA have different standards, they largely both guarantee localities the flexibility to decide their own voting locations.</p>
Early Voting Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business hours Mon-Fri. • 9-5 Sat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 10 hours per day. • Uniform hours (including blocks of time outside of 9AM-5PM). • Offers flexibility to small jurisdictions/VBM jurisdictions. 	<p style="text-align: center;">No</p> <p>Note: Although the FTVA's final proposal is different from West Virginia's practices on the whole, the bill's flexible standards for rural areas may mean that parts of the state need only modify current practices slightly.</p>
Weekend Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sat required, not Sun. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekend voting options required. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat</p> <p>Note: Unlike West Virginia law, the FTVA mandates Sunday voting options.</p>
Wait Times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information about wait time requirements in the state code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each state and jurisdiction will take reasonable efforts to ensure that voters wait no longer than 30 minutes to vote. 	<p style="text-align: center;">No</p>
Curbside Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curbside voting is available to voters with disabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States may not prevent local jurisdictions from implementing curbside voting. If it's in place, all voters may use it. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat</p> <p>Note: The FTVA does not mandate curbside voting; it merely leaves the decision up to local administrators and guarantees that -- where applied -- anyone may take advantage of it.</p>

Vote By Mail

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
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Kind of VBM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excuse Absentee (WV instituted an emergency rule during the pandemic that temporarily expanded access to excuse absentee ballots). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No-Excuse Absentee. 	<p>No</p> <p>Note: West Virginia has already experimented with opening up VBM options to a broader set of the population, to much success.</p>
Application Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application deadline is 6 days pre-election (applications can start 48 days before the election). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 business days pre-election is the standard absentee ballot request deadline (though states may set their own deadline closer to election day). 	<p>Yes</p>
Ability to Vote Early/In-Person Instead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absentee voters can choose to vote on election day instead. To do this, though, the voter must present the blank absentee ballot to be destroyed. Failure to present a mailed ballot for destruction will result in the submitted, in-person ballot being challenged. Protocol is unclear about voting early in-person, though West Virginia code does broadly promise that anyone who wishes to vote early can. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Absentee voters can choose to vote early or on election day instead. 	<p>Mostly</p>
Dropboxes Available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. 	<p>No</p>
Who pays for Postage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State, not the voter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal government, not the voter. USPS will carry all election materials (ballots, voter registration applications, etc.) free of charge, though the state is still on the hook for some overseas/military expenses. 	<p>Yes</p>
Ballot Tracking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Secretary of State's website is largely FTVA compliant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandates it. Will reimburse implementation costs. Information about the acceptance or rejection of a ballot must typically be provided within one business day. Instead 	<p>Mostly</p> <p>Note: The FTVA requires quality ballot tracking, but it offers funds for implementation and allows states to use a tracking service developed by the federal</p>

		of designing its own program, a state may use a tracking service to be developed by the federal government.	government.
Verification Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results must be verified and tabulated by two people from different parties, overseen by a county clerk. Signature discrepancies are a valid reason for ballot disqualification, determined by clerk (“official designated to supervise and conduct absentee voting”). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires that any signature verification processes meet good faith standards. Any denial of a signature must typically require the agreement of two officials from different parties trained in signature verification, with the opportunity for a voter to cure their ballot. 	<p>Mostly</p> <p>Note: In both the FTVA and West Virginia law, multiple officials from different parties are typically required to determine that a signature is invalid.</p>
Permanent Absentee VBM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available to certain voters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. Available to all voters. In the application for an absentee ballot, a voter may elect to receive absentee ballots in all subsequent elections. 	<p>Somewhat</p> <p>Note: West Virginia already allows some voters to register to receive absentee ballots permanently, and the FTVA expands that option to all voters.</p>

Election Day Holiday

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
Election Day Holiday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The state grants holidays for both primaries and general elections. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes -- general elections. 	Yes

Voter ID/Identity Verification

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
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Absentee Ballots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No ID/notary requirements -- signed attestation is sufficient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No ID/notary requirements -- signed attestation is sufficient. 	Yes
ID required for In-person Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ID is requested, though other documentation and identity confirmation options are available. West Virginians can apply for a free voter ID card. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not impose standards on states without ID requirements. ID is requested but not required. States must also provide a voter ID free of charge. 	Yes
Alternatives to Voter ID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. Multiple kinds of IDs and government-issued documentation are acceptable, including some that are free (ex. bank/debit card, various bills, etc.) Another adult can vouch for a voter's identity (must have known the voter for 6 months). If no form of identification is acceptable (or nothing is presented at all), a voter may fill out a provisional ballot and affidavit that will be judged via signature verification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not impose standards on states without ID requirements Additional documentation options are offered ("with respect to any individual, any document issued to such individual containing the individual's name"). Documentation may be government-issued (like IDs), though it can also be certain kinds of bills, bank cards, and health insurance cards. Copies, electronic or otherwise, are sufficient for documentation purposes. Instead of this kind of documentation, a voter may present a sworn statement from an adult who has known them for 6 months that confirms their identity (signed in the presence of an official) or an official that knows them may vouch for their identity. Without documentation, a voter may submit a provisional ballot, to be confirmed via signature verification (or via the presentation of ID). 	Yes

Ballot Counting

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
<i>Absentee Ballot Submission Deadline</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postmarked by election day (must be received within 5 days of election day). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postmarked or signed on election day and arrives within 7 days after election day (though states can accept ballots later if they wish). 	Mostly
<i>Absentee Ballot Curing Process</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not specified in the state code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third day after the state's deadline for accepting mail-in/absentee ballots (minimum 10 days after election). 	No
<i>Provisional Ballots Count for All Eligible Races, regardless of precinct</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. 	No
<i>Protection of Vote Tabulation/Counting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules against tampering with ballots, the ballot counting process, and results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminalization of intimidation relating to vote tabulation, canvas, and certification efforts. Governments may not implement a law, rule, standard, practice, procedure, or other governmental action that diminishes/substantially impairs the right to vote (including having that vote properly counted) unless it furthers a particularized interest. Civil action may be taken to enforce this (either in DC or the area of origin) and will be expedited. 	Mostly Note: West Virginia provides protections against interference with vote counting, but the FTVA's protections go further by preventing future laws that may try to undermine protections against election interference.

Election Security

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
<i>Voter Verified Paper Ballots Standards</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wide range of ballot options -- from paper to direct recording electronic machines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voter verified ballots are the standard. 	<p style="text-align: center;">No</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Note: The FTVA requires the use of voter verified paper ballots.</p>
<i>E-voting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, military overseas pilot program. Some disabled voters are eligible to vote by electronic absentee methods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows the continuation of certain state programs used by military/overseas voters to transmit completed ballots electronically. A new study on accessible voting options explores remote voting (covers remote voting systems and voting, verification, and casting devices). 	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Note: The FTVA allows successful and innovative state e-voting programs to continue while funding more inquiry into remote voting options.</p>
<i>Post-Election Audits</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes - every contest is audited by randomly selecting 3% of precincts, using paper ballots. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes -- requires post-election audits, though it does not require immediate adoption of this practice. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Yes</p>
<i>Standards for Removal of Election Officials</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State election commission appointed by Governor (5 members, including the Secretary of State), with the advice and consent of the senate. Not more than 2 members appointed can be part of the same party. The Governor may remove state election commission officials "at his will and pleasure" without disclosing cause. Any official can also be impeached, which the House of Delegates controls. County election commissions can vote to suspend the eligibility of an election official candidate for specific violations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates baseline standards for the lawful removal of a local election administrator and legal avenues for a removed local official to challenge the decision. The U.S. government also reserves the right to intervene in removal efforts. 	<p style="text-align: center;">No</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County officials (either elected or appointed) with fixed terms may be removed via resolution from the county commission, qualified petition, or successful prosecution by the county attorney. Appointed county officials without fixed terms may be removed by the appointing body without cause. 		
<i>Election Worker Intimidation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penalties for intimidation/menace of officers assisting in holding the election in an attempt to convince them not to do their jobs properly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates heavy penalties for intimidating election workers. 	Yes
<i>Poll Watchers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only authorized election officers, voters, children, and people providing assistance to blind voters may be or remain within 100 feet of the outside entrance building where voting is taking place. Someone dropping off a voter may do so, but must typically immediately move their car. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poll watchers may not be within 8 feet of a voter or ballot during voting or during processing, canvassing, tabulating, certifying, etc. 	No Note: The Freedom to Vote Act allows more flexibility to poll watchers than does West Virginia law.
<i>Voter Intimidation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misdemeanor penalty for anyone preventing or trying to prevent someone from attending an election or exercising their right to vote through force, fraud, menace or intimidation. Once convicted, a fine of up to \$1,000 is in order, as is up to a year sentence in the county jail. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FTVA creates new penalties for hindering someone from registering to vote and for the proliferation of false information to try to prevent someone from voting. Both of these come with penalties of up to \$100,000 fines and 5 year sentences. Existing voter intimidation penalties are strengthened to a fine up to \$100,000 and/or up to a 5 year sentence. Currently, US code sets this at a fine (unclear amount) and/or a sentence of 1 year maximum. 	Mostly Note: The Freedom to Vote Act strengthens penalties against people intimidating voters.

<i>Protection of Election Records</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certain election materials (ballots, pollbooks, tally sheets, etc.) will be preserved for 22 months (or until any challenge of the election wraps up). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands the list of protected election records to include electronic records. Voter verifiable ballots also must be preserved for 22 months. 	<p>Mostly</p> <p>Note: The Freedom to Vote Act strengthens protections of electronic election records.</p>
<i>Protection of Election Infrastructure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WV has misdemeanor penalties for harming election equipment during the election. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cybersecurity and voting machine security requirements. Sets standards for the protection and preservation of election equipment like voting machines and penalizes interference with this preservation. 	<p>Mostly</p> <p>Note: The Freedom to Vote Act strengthens protections of election infrastructure.</p>

Congressional Redistricting

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
<i>Redistricting authority</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State legislature, subject to veto, by simple statute. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State's choice. 	Yes
<i>Criteria banning partisan gerrymandering</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, maps may not favor/disfavor political parties. 	No
<i>Criteria maintaining localities and communities of interest</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counties preserved. Districts must be compact and contiguous. Communities of interest are not protected for congressional districts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities of interest (geographic needs included) and neighborhoods protected (counties, municipalities, etc. are included in this "if the record warrants" but should not include common relationships with a political party/candidate). 	No

Transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearings are not legally mandated. In 2021, 15 hearings have been announced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public hearings required. 	<p style="text-align: center;">No</p> <p>Note: While WV has held public hearings, those hearings are not required by law, creating the possibility that a future legislature could avoid them. The Freedom to Vote Act ensures West Virginia's meetings continue.</p>
Legal recourse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens may challenge maps post-passage (in federal court for congressional maps). Bad precedent establishing permissibility of gerrymandering. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More extensive judicial remedies are available for States' failure to comply with redistricting requirements, and claims of discriminatory effect will be taken as a legal presumption if the state has a recent and significant history of disproportionate representation. This triggers the development of an interim map. Both citizens and the U.S. government are empowered to challenge maps post-passage. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat</p>

Campaign Finance

	West Virginia	Freedom to Vote Act	Are WV law and the FTVA similar?
Dark Money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any person making independent expenditures over \$1k in a year, anyone exercising/sharing direction or control over the activities of the individual making the expenditure, and any donor (PAC or individual) who has contributed above \$250 ("whose contributions were made for the purpose of furthering the expenditure"). Special disclosures for \$5k in electioneering period, \$10k 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donors giving \$10K or more per cycle to covered organizations (corporation, union, non-501c3 nonprofit, etc.) spending \$10K or more on campaign-related disbursements per cycle (or transferring money to other orgs for those purposes) must disclose donor identity (unless the funds are expressly restricted/segregated bank accounts are involved -- then a donor must contribute \$10K 	<p style="text-align: center;">Somewhat</p> <p>Both West Virginia and FTVA deal with disclosure of donors, but FTVA guarantees donor transparency on more levels, closing loopholes that currently allow dark money spenders to manipulate the system.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> before that. Independent expenditures must include a public, conspicuous statement identifying the ad buyer. 	<p>specifically to campaign-related disbursements). The rules are slightly different for transfers within corporate affiliates. Exemptions exist for those who would face harassment/reprisal as a result of the disclosure of their identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The newly included Spotlight Act also requires currently exempt nonprofits (c4s, c5s, and c6s) abide by the contributor disclosure requirements for c3s. 	
<p>Online Ads Disclosure Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electioneering communications (broadcast, cable, communications via satellite signal, print ad, mass mailing, telephone bank, billboard) and all independent expenditure communications broadly must disclose the group paying for the ad. <i>It is unclear whether internet ads fit under West Virginia's satellite communications definition; they do not under current federal law.</i> Anyone who has directly spent \$5,000 or more on electioneering communications during a calendar year or \$1,000 or more on or after the fifteenth day but more than twelve hours before the day of any election shall file within 24 hours of the disclosure date. Filing must include the identity of the spender and those of certain affiliated partners/contributors (similar to the independent expenditure disclosure requirements). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes digital and online ads (electioneering and public communications) in transparency and disclosure in regulations that currently exclude them. Requires conspicuous statements in online ads that identify the buyer. Requires large online platforms to have records of requests to run ads on their site (if the requester has spent an aggregate of \$500 on political ads during the calendar year), provide links to any third-party ad vendor's own records. 	<p>No</p>

<p><i>Coordinated Spending</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes coverage of direct coordination and recent affiliation (within 4 months) with the campaign (both an employee or a vendor involved in communications, for example). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands the definition of coordinated spending (now includes the exchange of video footage, etc.). New coordinated spender category -- those with certain ties to the campaign who spend on public communications relating to the campaign will generally have those communications classified as coordinated spending. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Mostly</p>
<p><i>Public financing</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No longer a matching program, but their Supreme Court does have a Public Campaign Finance Pilot Program (permanently authorized in 2013) that requires a min of 500 unique, small donations to qualify (largely non-tax payer funded pot of money). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Democracy credit program (similar to voucher pilot). 6 to 1 small donor matching. Relevant to House of Representatives races only. States must decide to opt into the democracy credit program, and candidates must decide to opt into the matching program. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Mostly</p> <p>Although both implement public financing systems, they employ different styles and apply to different kinds of campaigns.</p>
<p><i>Public financing fund source</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Largely funded by non-taxpayer dollars. A section within the sourcing section does include “any other money appropriated to the fund,” implying that it could be partially funded by tax-payer dollars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Election Assistance and Innovation Trust Fund comes from corporate malfeasance and high-level tax code violation fines. No taxpayer funds are permitted. States must opt into receiving this money for democracy credits, as must candidates participating in the matching program. 	<p style="text-align: center;">No</p> <p>Unlike West Virginia’s fund for public campaign financing, the FTVA’s State Election Assistance and Innovation Trust Fund is banned from receiving taxpayer dollars.</p>