

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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## FEC ISSUES FINAL RULES GOVERNING NATIONAL MAIL REGISTRATION

WASHINGTON -- Final rules governing a voter mail registration form and recordkeeping and reporting requirements for election officials were published by the Federal Election Commission in the June 23 Federal Register.

Under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA), the Commission is required to develop a national mail voter registration form for use in federal elections. That form is still being finalized by the FEC.

The form is not meant as a federal registration system. Potential voters must register in their state of residence.

The Commission must submit a report to Congress every two years assessing the impact of NVRA on the administration of elections and suggesting improvements in forms, procedures and other related matters. The Commission has no interpretive authority beyond these areas, and no enforcement powers under NVRA.

The Commission prepared these rules after a careful review of the many comments received in response to its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and the results of surveys of state election officials conducted by the FEC's National Clearinghouse on Election Administration.

These rules become effective on July 25, but states have until January 1, 1995, to comply with the NVRA in adopting the national registration form, or devising a state-specific application similar to the national form.

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