



★ VIRGINIA ★
DEPARTMENT *of* ELECTIONS

To: Julie Triplett, disAbility Law Center of Virginia
From: Andrea Gaines, Virginia Department of Elections
Date: April 10, 2023
Re: Requested Response to disAbility Law Center of Virginia Survey on Polling Place Accessibility

The Department of Elections (ELECT) and Virginia's local election officials have a shared responsibility to ensure that all Virginians have equal access to cast their ballots. ELECT is committed to ensuring that all eligible voters in Virginia can cast their ballots without hindrance. In response to the disAbility Law Center of Virginia's (dLCV) survey, the Department sent an official advisory to all general registrars regarding the survey findings and reminded them of available resources located on the Department's website that aid localities in improving accessibility; these resources include but are not limited to:

- Chapter 5 of ELECT's [General Registrars and Electoral Board \(GREB\) Handbook](#);
- ELECT's [Polling Place Accessibility Checklist Form](#);

In addition to these resources, the Department has designated accessibility coordinators on staff that are available to research and respond to questions related to accessibility. ELECT is also taking the following measures to continue accessibility compliance across the Commonwealth:

- The locality-specific findings from dLCV's November 2022 survey will be provided to each locality named in the survey for corrective action, as needed.
- ELECT is providing a list of Key Takeaways for Accessible Polling Places.
- ELECT will review and update Chapter 5 of the GREB Handbook regarding the accessibility of polling places, as needed.
- ELECT will review and update its ADA checklist for polling places, as needed.
- ELECT will provide an informational session regarding the ADA and accessible polling places during the Virginia Elections Workshop conference in July 2023.

The Department of Elections considers accessibility a high priority and appreciates the dLCV's continuing efforts to make voting in Virginia accessible for every qualified voter.