

## ‘Election Day’ Will Be More Like ‘Election Week’ This Year

The U.S. is roughly seven weeks shy of Election Day, nothing short of several lifetimes in politics given the pace of the news cycle and seemingly endless loop of major developments continuing to break in 2020.

Adding to the time crunch as a result of the pandemic, 45 states are permitting Americans to vote absentee ballot by mail, and 44 have early, in-person voting to allow residents to cast their ballot in person ahead of Election Day.

As a result, our team is preparing for “Election Day” to be more like “Election Week,” as major swing states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin will not begin processing absentee and early votes until Nov. 3, potentially delaying results.

We are monitoring these rapidly changing developments in voting laws and have built a tool for our members, available at [www.voteforjobs.com](http://www.voteforjobs.com), that details rules by state and lists key dates for absentee and in-person voting.

Adjustments to voting, along with fluctuations in the political landscape continue to dictate Chamber endorsements, and separately, issue advocacy efforts.

Just last week, we launched an issue advocacy campaign in Montana mentioning Senator Steve Daines and his work to secure \$3.5 billion in [workforce recovery resources](#) to expand online learning and virtual training for communities impacted by Covid-19.

And on Tuesday, the Chamber launched an ad in Minnesota, calling on Senator Tina Smith to put politics aside and support a bipartisan bill called the [Paycheck Protection Small Business Forgiveness Act](#) that will aid small businesses struggling due to the pandemic.

As the old saying goes in politics, “candidates matter.” While this political cycle has created a highly charged partisan environment, and the coronavirus has disrupted campaigns as we knew them, there are still opportunities to better understand who a candidate is and what they stand for outside of the partisan noise. The best example of this are debates, with many of these just getting started in U.S. Senate contests. We encourage our members to take the time to watch down ballot debates as an unfiltered opportunity to listen to the candidates and their positions.

To learn more about the Chamber’s Political Affairs program, visit [www.uschamber.com/action](http://www.uschamber.com/action) or follow us on Twitter [@USChamberAction](https://twitter.com/USChamberAction).

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