



Elderly Couple Loses ID in Fire, Fear They Can't Vote

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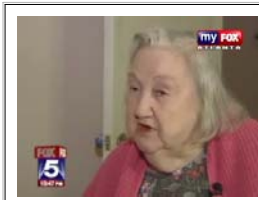
ATLANTA (MyFOX Atlanta) -- For the first time, Georgia voters are required to have a photo ID when they go to the polls Tuesday. A DeKalb County couple is upset they won't be able to vote because many of their documents were lost in a recent fire.

Agnes Cowan has voted in every major election since she was 18-years-old. Now at 81 she feels as though her right to vote has been taken away.

"I was the first one in line and voted ever since," said Agnes Cowan.



Agnes Cowan has voted in every major election since she was 18-years-old.



Video: Elderly Couple Loses ID in Fire, Afraid They Won't Be Able to Vote -- FOX 5's Denise Dillon reports.

That was 63 years ago -- Agnes Cowan was 18-years-old. Throughout the years Cowan has worked on numerous political campaigns. She was even part of Jimmy Carter's "Peanut Brigade." More recently her children have run for political office. She says she's never missed a major election. But she fears she'll have to miss Georgia's primary because of the new voter ID law.

"If they conform to the law they won't let me vote," said Cowan.

Cowan and her husband are still rebuilding after a recent fire at their home. They lost many of their documents -- including her husband's veteran's ID and other paperwork which could have been used to vote.

The Secretary of State's office says no one will be turned away from the polls. If someone does not have a photo ID, they'll be given a

provisional ballot -- then they'll have 48 hours to get a photo voter ID and bring it to their county registrars office.

Confined to a wheelchair and in poor health, Cowan says it would be extremely difficult for her to get a valid photo ID.

"For me it's virtually impossible and at best a burden. The burden shouldn't fall on me, my vote is sacred, it belongs to me."

Cowan says she plans to show up at her polling place and she's hoping her vote will count.

"I'm going to do this because I want to see what kind of impact I can make. I hope somehow we can reverse this law."

Cowan says she tried to vote absentee, but the forms never arrived in the mail. Supporters of the new Voter ID law say it's important to prevent voter fraud.

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