



## Cato: No Voter Fraud

By fitsnews • on February 1, 2012

While S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley wipes the egg off of her face (again) on the voter ID issue, one of the nation's most prominent limited government think tanks is weighing in on the subject.

Its conclusion?

Much the same as ours ... that the "voter fraud" line that Haley and many "Republicans" in the S.C. General Assembly have been parroting for the better part of the last year is just that, a line.

"The voter ID issue is a hot one," writes Jim Harper, Director of Information Policy Studies at The Cato Institute. "Some are strongly committed to the idea that identification requirements are needed to suppress voter fraud. There isn't much evidence of that problem, and to worry about impersonation fraud at polling places, one has to put aside absentee ballot fraud, which is probably much easier, as well as election fraud – rigged vote counts, for example – which is much more efficient."

(Read Harper's thoughts [here](#)).

The public is still waiting on Haley's Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to document its contention that [957 deceased South Carolinians](#) voted in the most recent statewide election – a claim that has since been debunked by the S.C. State Election Commission.

While we wait, we'd like to direct our readers to a recent [NPR story](#) which highlights a point we raised recently (although unlike NPR our insights weren't subsidized by your tax dollars).

Our point? To obtain a photo ID in South Carolina you must [first obtain a copy of your birth certificate](#), which the S.C. Department of Vital Statistics won't provide you with unless you show them ... wait for it ... your photo ID.

Sheesh ...

As we've pointed out on many occasions, South Carolina has plenty of [real problems to address](#). We don't need our leaders conjuring up nonexistent ones.