



March 17, 2026

Dear Senators:

Campaign Legal Center (CLC) writes to express our strong opposition to the [SAVE America Act](#) (S. 1383), a dangerous piece of legislation on the Senate floor this week that would dramatically reshape how Americans register and vote. CLC is a nonpartisan legal organization dedicated to solving the wide range of challenges facing our democracy. We fight for a future in which every American can participate meaningfully in the democratic process, resulting in representative, responsive, and accountable government.

The SAVE America Act is a plain attempt to revive the unpopular [SAVE Act](#) (S. 128/H.R. 22), which received overwhelming pushback from the public and failed to make it to the Senate floor last year. Alarming, this renewed bill goes even farther than the SAVE Act, proposing sweeping national mandates that would harm voters, strain election systems, and upend longstanding democratic practices. Underscoring its lack of public support, the SAVE America Act garnered even fewer votes than the original SAVE Act when the House took it up earlier this year.

Like its SAVE Act predecessor, the SAVE America Act would impose extreme documentation requirements on the voter registration process, silencing millions of Americans by making it harder to participate in our elections. In addition to advancing the SAVE Act's nationwide voter suppression scheme, the SAVE America Act would overhaul some of the most popular pieces of our current electoral system, force states to hand over voters' sensitive information to the federal government, and significantly burden election workers.

Extreme Documentation Requirements

Like the [original SAVE Act](#), the SAVE America Act would require Americans to provide documentary proof of citizenship ("DPOC") to register to vote in federal elections or change their voter registration, despite the fact that strict laws and safeguards already exist to ensure voters verify their eligibility.

The DPOC requirement is not only unnecessary, but extremely burdensome. Because state IDs and drivers' licenses generally do not indicate the holder's citizenship, most voter registration applicants would need to present additional documents like a passport, birth certificate, adoption certificate, or naturalization papers to register to vote. But only [about half of all Americans](#) have a passport, and [more than 21 million Americans](#) do not have *any* valid citizenship document readily available. Under the SAVE America Act, these eligible voters would face onerous barriers to participating in elections.

The SAVE America Act would also implement a voter documentation requirement at polling places and for mail voters that is more burdensome than almost [every single state voter ID law currently in effect](#). The requirement excludes forms of identification that young people and voters of color rely on disproportionately. For example, voters could not use photo identification issued by a state college or university, despite these being widely accepted in most states with voter identification requirements. Similarly, Tribal identification would only be valid if it includes a photo and expiration date—[something that many forms of Tribal identification simply lack](#).

Strong Arming States into Sharing Sensitive Voter Data

Under the SAVE America Act, every single state would be required to submit its entire voter registration list—including sensitive personal information about voters, like their party affiliation and whether they registered to vote at a public assistance agency—to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for comparison to [the agency's error-ridden database](#). This is a plain attempt to [bully states into sharing sensitive information](#) with the federal government that federal officials might be unable to otherwise access. Making matters worse, the SAVE America Act places no restrictions on what the federal government can do with the sensitive data once DHS receives it and no safeguards against using the data to force voter purges or unduly question election results.

Purging Eligible Americans from Voter Rolls Based on Bad Data

The SAVE America Act would force states to conduct frequent voter purges based on faulty data that is [known to misidentify eligible voters as being ineligible](#). To comply with the bill's requirements, states would have to use data from specific government agencies to attempt to identify alleged non-U.S. citizens and remove them from their voter rolls. However, these databases generally are not automatically updated, meaning that naturalized citizens who accessed an agency's services before they became eligible to vote will often [remain tagged incorrectly and could be improperly purged](#).

The information in these databases is also commonly incomplete and contains a remarkable number of administrative errors. Worse yet, under the SAVE America Act, there is no clear process for state and local officials to notify voters of their removal, meaning that eligible voters who are incorrectly purged might not realize they were removed until they show up to vote and the deadline to re-register has already passed.

Severely Burdening Election Workers

Like the SAVE Act, the SAVE America Act would criminalize election workers just for doing their jobs. If passed, the bill could subject any election worker who registers a voter without sufficient DPOC to five years in prison and hefty fines, even if the registrant is a U.S. citizen. Private citizens would also be empowered to harass election workers with taxing litigation—a tactic election deniers would almost certainly use to undermine voters' confidence in our democratic process.

Moreover, the SAVE America Act is an unfunded mandate. It would put the onus on election workers to implement and enforce the bill's [complicated and expensive](#) documentation and voter purge requirements, but provide no funding to localities to update their voting systems.

Eliminating Mail Voter Registration

By requiring voter registration applicants to submit DPOC in person, even when they submit their voter registration application by mail, the SAVE America Act—like its SAVE Act predecessor—would essentially eliminate the more accessible and extremely popular mail registration process. This provision would also severely restrict voter registration drives, including ones by candidates.

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The SAVE America and SAVE Acts are unnecessary and a plain attempt to stoke [unfounded fears](#) about the integrity of our elections. If either became law, they would disenfranchise millions of Americans while furthering ongoing efforts to undermine election results and public trust in our democracy. **For these reasons, Campaign Legal Center strongly urges you to vote NO on the SAVE America Act (S. 1383), and to oppose any other effort to revive or advance the SAVE Act.**

Respectfully submitted,

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