

Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act (“SAVE Act”) (H.R. 8281)

One Pager

- The SAVE Act’s burdens are extreme—**most Americans would be unable to register to vote using their driver’s license or other state-provided identification alone.**
 - Millions of Americans, including tens of thousands in each congressional district, would be prevented from registering to vote easily, if at all.
- **The SAVE Act is a federal takeover of state election administration** that would amend the National Voter Registration Act to mandate states require Americans to provide documentary proof of citizenship (“DPOC”) to register to vote in federal elections.
 - These provisions will apply to all new registrants across the United States—including already-registered voters who update their registration as the result of a move, a name change, or a party switch.
- **Americans would not be able to register to vote with their driver’s license**—REAL IDs *do not* meet the SAVE Act’s requirements of showing a holder’s citizenship, and non-citizens are legally permitted to have REAL IDs.
 - Americans would **not** be able to use **military IDs** or **Tribal IDs** alone when registering to vote.
 - People who have changed their names, **including millions of married women**, would not be allowed to use their birth certificates when proving their citizenship.
- The SAVE Act would disallow states from accepting the NVRA’s mail voter registration application unless the applicant presents DPOC **in person** at the office of an appropriate election official.
 - The SAVE Act would essentially gut mail and online voter registration.
- The SAVE Act would require individuals to bring DPOC to vote if they live in a state with same-day voter registration and intend on both registering to vote and casting a ballot at the same time.
 - This would pose a significant burden to many voters, most of whom do not show up to their polling places with their passports or birth certificates.
- The SAVE Act would lead to **purges of eligible voters** based on faulty sources of citizenship information, including certain state agency databases that may contain unreliable citizenship data.

- **The SAVE Act would require the heads of federal agencies to respond to citizenship data about voters to state governments—which could number in the thousands—within 24 hours.**
 - Given the extremely short turnaround time, this process would undoubtedly be rife with flaws and significantly overburden already-taxed federal agencies.
- The SAVE Act would **subject election officials** to hefty criminal fines and up **to five years in federal prison** for simple mistakes.
 - These criminal penalties would also apply to any executive branch employee who provides undefined and overboard “material assistance” to any noncitizen who is attempting to register to vote.