

Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act (SAVE) Act

The SAVE Act (H.R.22), sponsored by Congressman Chip Roy (TX-21), would block millions of American citizens from voting, particularly women.

The bill amends the National Voter Registration Act to prohibit States from registering any American to vote unless they provide, in-person, a passport, birth certificate with their current name, or equivalent. Since these documents must be provided in-person, the bill would ban online, mail-in, and automatic voter registration nationwide, and force voters who move, change their name, or switch parties to travel to the DMV or other government office to update their voter registrations.

The SAVE Act is an attempt to trick lawmakers into making it harder for millions of eligible Americans to vote. Republicans say it would prevent non-citizens from registering, but that is already illegal. The bill would actually prevent millions of eligible American citizens from registering or re-registering by requiring them to show up in-person with a passport or birth certificate.

- More than <u>21 million Americans</u> do not have the documents required by the SAVE Act readily available.
- The SAVE Act bars Americans from registering to vote with their driver's licenses.
- <u>69 million women</u> do not have a birth certificate with their current legal name on it, most often because they changed their name when they got married.
- Approximately <u>146 million Americans do not have a passport</u>. Older Americans, Black Americans, rural, and low-income Americans are less likely to have valid passports.

The SAVE Act also threatens election workers with civil and criminal liability, including fines and up to five years in federal prison, for purposefully, or inadvertently, registering a voter without meeting the bill's requirements, opening the door to a flood of litigation against election officials.

When Kansas enacted a similar law, 31,000 eligible citizens were blocked from registering to vote. The law became impossible to administer and was struck down in federal court. Kansas's Republican secretary of state has urged others not to follow Kansas's lead. When Arizona enacted similar requirements, 200,000 eligible voters were almost kicked off the rolls until the courts and the state Republican Party intervened.

The SAVE Act <u>passed</u> the GOP House in 2024. This year, House Republicans passed a <u>rules package</u> to fast-track the SAVE Act, allowing it to bypass committee, the amendment process, and the need for a rule to govern debate.