

SB 293 would throw out valid votes

- More than 9,500 ballots were received during the November 2024 four-day post election window (source: [Ohio Absentee and Early Voting Dashboard](#)).
- Ballots that are properly filled out, postmarked on time, and mailed by the legal deadline would be discarded simply because of postal delays.
- Voters would be punished for something completely outside their control: the speed of the mail.

SB 293 is especially harmful to:

- Rural Ohio voters: slower mail routes and reduced postal service days mean longer delivery times
- Ohio seniors and Ohioans with disabilities: voting by mail is often the only option for these voters
- Ohio voters without reliable transportation: Ohioans living in poverty and students who often don't have their own vehicles would be disproportionately impacted

Ohio election law already requires mail-in ballots to be postmarked on the day before Election Day.

- **Absentee voters aren't getting any extra time to vote.**
- The existing 4-day acceptance period doesn't extend the time Ohio voters can cast a ballot, it's simply a mail delivery window to ensure ballots from eligible voters are counted.

Ohioans expect their mailed ballots will be counted.

- Of the more than 2.6M Ohioans who voted before Election Day last November, 803,253 (31%) voters used the US Postal Service as their preferred method of ballot return (source: [Ohio Absentee and Early Voting Dashboard](#))

Respectfully,

Robert Herbst