

In 2024, the Ohio General Assembly added a requirement for public institutions of higher education to begin teaching a “civic literacy” course. This is to teach students about their own country before they can learn about others (never mind that these students have already had U.S. history in high school). Although this is not necessarily a bad thing, SB153 is!

SB153 strips away the current voter registration system and makes it impossible for many Ohio citizens to vote. I’ve worked voter hotlines and fielded many questions from frustrated and disappointed citizens who didn’t have the “correct” information or ID to vote on election day. If the General Assembly is so concerned about college students being taught to participate in our democracy, then why on earth is it making it harder to vote? Incidents of voter fraud are nearly non-existent or exist only in the minds of deluded elected officials. These egregious and unnecessary requirements will prevent civic engagement that the General Assembly says it wants under SB1.

By all intents and purposes, SB153 looks like a power grab by the General Assembly to suppress the votes of lower-income, young and female constituents. Please do not vote for SB153!