

October 26, 2025

Opponent Testimony on SB 153 (HB 233)

My name is Glenn R. Campbell. I am a registered Ohio voter and taxpayer residing at 15305 Landing Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107.

I urge you to oppose and kill SB 153.

SB 153 (the so-called SAVE Act) is one of the most dangerous and un-American bills Ohio has ever seen. It claims to be securing our elections, but it would actually prevent tens of thousands of *legal* voters from participating in the political process. It would effectively criminalize democracy in many ways, a few of which are outlined below.

Requiring “documentary proof of citizenship.” It would force citizens to provide intensive documentation in order to register to vote/update voter registration. This means that many Ohioans could only register to vote at the BMV or county Board of Elections and that far fewer Ohioans would be able to use Ohio's online voter registration system.

Requiring a citizen’s ID to match their voter information exactly. Citizens could be forced to vote provisionally if their middle initial is listed on their voter registration but not on their license (!). They could be forced to vote provisionally if they moved in the past 8 years but didn’t update their license or if they changed or hyphenated their last name when they got married. For example, if a citizen’s voter registration says “Dave” but their license says “David,” they would have to vote provisionally! All of these provisions are UTTERLY UNACCEPTABLE and will cause massive chaos and backup at polling places (I know this as a poll worker).

Additionally, under SB 153, if a citizen is forced to vote provisionally for any reason, and if they fail to provide proper documentation afterward, their voter registration would be canceled.

Additionally, if voters fail to respond to voter confirmation notices sent through the mail within 14 days of the second notice, they could face **prosecution**! This is ludicrous and will scare Ohioans of all stripes from registering to vote at all.

Additionally, SB 153 would ban all ballot drop boxes! This is UNACCEPTABLE and ignores the needs and rights of many Ohioans who need to return ballots at odd hours due to work, school, or child care.

Finally, SB 153 is a direct attack on our state's citizen-led ballot initiative process by making it harder to collect signatures and putting petition circulators in legal jeopardy on totally baseless grounds.

If SB 153 is passed, it will create a groundswell and uprising of citizen discontent never seen before in our state. I **IMPLORE YOU TO NOT CHIP AWAY AT SUCH LARGE CHUNKS OF OUR MOST BASIC VOTING RIGHTS**. Nothing good can come of this despicable bill. My ancestors died protecting rights that SB 153 would toss in the trash heap. My fellow Ohioans and I will not let that stand.