

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of Greater Youngstown, I write in opposition to SB 153 for the following reasons:

1. Re: the Citizen Petition process: It would open the door to politically motivated investigations of petition committee members.
2. Re: Registration and Voting: citizen verification process could prevent many Ohioans eligible to vote from registering. The State of Kansas, which implemented a very similar law, reversed course when they determined 12% of their eligible residents were unable to register.

Voters may be prosecuted if they fail to respond within 14 days to a confirmation notice sent in the mail. Have you ever been away from home for 14 days and had your mail held?

The number of provisional ballots would likely skyrocket, as persons with mismatched data from the BOE and BMV would be required to vote provisionally.

3. Re: Workload for BOE's: While increasing their workload significantly, this bill provides no additional funding nor any administrative support from the State.

The Ohio Secretary of State has touted the safety, security, and accuracy of Ohio elections after EVERY ELECTION HIS OFFICE HAS OVERSEEN SINCE 2018. This is a solution in search of a problem based on the debunked notion that there is fraud in the current system, which there is not.