

Senate General Government Committee

Ohio Statehouse
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Opposition to Senate Bill 153

Dear Chair Roegner, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and Members of the Senate General Government Committee,

I am writing as a concerned Ohio voter and an active member of a local, nonpartisan voter advocacy organization to respectfully urge you to oppose **Senate Bill 153**. This legislation seeks to address the issue of non-citizen voting, a problem that simply does not exist in Ohio.

Ohio law already prohibits non-citizens from voting, and there is no credible evidence of widespread—or even isolated—instances of this occurring in our state. By introducing unnecessary administrative hurdles, this bill risks disenfranchising legitimate voters rather than addressing any proven threat to election integrity.

In particular, SB 153 will create serious complications for **married women who have changed their names**, as well as **vulnerable populations such as the elderly, students, and low-income citizens**, who may face additional challenges in obtaining or updating required documentation. Instead of strengthening trust in our elections, this bill will cause confusion, increase costs for county boards of elections, and make it harder for eligible Ohioans to participate in our democracy.

As someone who works closely with voters in my community, I can attest that the true barriers to civic participation in Ohio are logistical and procedural—not fraud. Every added layer of bureaucracy sends the wrong message to citizens who simply want their voices heard.

Our democracy is strongest when all eligible voters can cast their ballots freely and confidently. I urge the committee to reject Senate Bill 153 and focus instead on measures that encourage full, fair, and accessible participation in our elections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sarah L. Burton-Price

Concerned Voter
Mason, Ohio