



## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 153

---

*Presented to*  
Ohio Senate General Government Committee

October 28, 2025

Beau Euton, *on behalf of*  
FGA Action

Chair Roegner, Vice-Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Blackshear, and honorable members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB153, and thank you to Vice-Chair Gavarone for introducing it.<sup>1</sup> My name is Beau Euton, and I am here on behalf of FGA Action.

SB153 will implement critical safeguards to ensure non-citizens aren't voting in Ohio elections and makes other necessary improvements to strengthen Ohio's election code, including voter roll maintenance and absentee voting protections. Ohio has taken several important steps in recent years to secure its elections, but no system is perfect, and it's vital to preserve voter confidence in the process. With growing concern about election integrity, SB153 is the next reasonable step to protecting our elections.

This bill requires proof of US citizenship when registering to vote or updating registration. It also directs the Secretary of State and county election boards to routinely vet the voter registration database and BMV database to identify "apparent non-citizens." Having clear, enforceable verification standards enhance voter confidence and the legitimacy of election outcomes.

Earlier this year, President Donald Trump signed an executive order entitled, "Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections" that enforced the citizenship requirement for federal elections.

State legislatures across the country have recently passed similar legislation. In all eight of last November's ballot initiatives, a clear majority of voters approved constitutional amendments making it explicitly illegal for non-citizens to vote in their state and local elections.<sup>2</sup> These states include Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Wisconsin.<sup>3</sup> These ballot initiatives were wildly popular, with South Carolina's initiative passing with 86% of the vote, and Oklahoma's passing with 81%.<sup>4</sup>

Seven additional states previously had explicit prohibitions including Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.<sup>5</sup>

This bill takes reasonable, targeted steps to verify citizenship and protect the integrity of Ohio's elections. By passing this legislation, Ohio reaffirms its commitment to the principle that only eligible electors cast ballots, which reinforces the foundational fairness of our democratic process. For these reasons, I respectfully I urge you to support SB153. Thank you for your time and I'm happy to answer any questions.

## References

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/136/sb4>.

<sup>2</sup> Ballotpedia, "Nine states approved bills related to noncitizen voting, voters in eight states will consider ballot measures this November," Ballotpedia (2025), <https://news.ballotpedia.org/2024/07/15/nine-states-approved-bills-related-to-noncitizen-voting-voters-in-eight-states-will-consider-ballot-measures-this-november/>.

<sup>3</sup> Ballotpedia, "Laws permitting noncitizens to vote in the United States," Ballotpedia (2024), <https://news.ballotpedia.org/2024/07/15/nine-states-approved-bills-related-to-noncitizen-voting-voters-in-eight-states-will-consider-ballot-measures-this-november/>.

<sup>4</sup> Ballotpedia, "Nine states approved bills related to noncitizen voting, voters in eight states will consider ballot measures this November," Ballotpedia (2025), <https://news.ballotpedia.org/2024/07/15/nine-states-approved-bills-related-to-noncitizen-voting-voters-in-eight-states-will-consider-ballot-measures-this-november/>.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.