

November 3, 2025,

Purpose of Letter: Vote No on SB 293

To the Senate General Government Committee,

I am asking you to vote NO on SB 293. This bill is aimed at closing the four-day post-election period for accepted mailed ballots.

What if you vote “yes” for SB 293?

You will be diluting democracy and taking away the rights of Ohioans to have their voices heard through their mail-in ballots. SB 293 would throw out valid votes. It would negatively impact ballots that are properly filled out, postmarked on time, and mailed by the legal deadline would be discarded simply because of postal delays. Voters would be punished for something completely outside their control: the speed of the mail.

Who does SB 293 especially harm?

- **Rural Ohio voters:** slower mail routes and reduced postal service days mean longer delivery times.
- **Ohio seniors and Ohioans with disabilities:** voting by mail is often the only option for these voters.
- **Ohio voters without reliable transportation:** Ohioans living in poverty and students who often don't have their own vehicles would be disproportionately impacted.

Ohioans trust their mailed ballots will be counted: Of the more than 2.6M Ohioans who voted before Election Day last November, 803,253 (31%) voters placed their trust in the US Postal Service as their preferred method of ballot return (source: Ohio Absentee and Early Voting Dashboard).

I am perplexed by your need to rush SB 293 through this Committee and on to the next step. Why? Ohio's current system works well. Ohio election law already requires mail-in ballots to be postmarked on the day before Election Day. The existing 4-day acceptance period doesn't extend the time Ohio voters can cast a ballot, it's simply a mail delivery window to ensure ballots from eligible voters are counted.

So, what is your political agenda in passing SB 293?

By voting “yes” for SB 293, it appears you do not care that the Ohioans, who you supposedly represent, will have their voices stripped away because you refuse to preserve the current 4-day acceptance period for mail-in ballots. The whole issue of voter fraud is hypocritical and exasperating coming from a party hellbent on gerrymandering geographical voting districts and suppressing the votes of many Ohioans. Don't all our voices count or only the ones who support your agenda?

As a concerned and long-time resident of Ohio, I am asking you to VOTE NO on SB 293.

Regards,

Holly Clemens
Concerned Ohio Citizen

