

November 3rd, 2025

To the Ohio Senate General Government Committee:

The more registered voters participate in elections, the healthier our democracy will be. For a variety of legitimate reasons, many people are unable to vote in person. There are many examples of delays in mail delivery. I have personally witnessed mail delays of more than thirty days on more than one occasion. Therefore, the determination of the basis for counting mail-in ballots should be based on the date of the postmark on the envelope, not the day of arrival. The date of the postmark should be no later than one day before the election. Refusing to count ballots that arrive after election day will inevitably disenfranchise voters who have mailed their ballots within a reasonable time window ahead of time, but whose ballots, through no fault of their own, arrived after election day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elinore Evans Hoke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elinore" being the most prominent.

Elinore Evans Hoke