

November 4, 2025

Dear members of the Senate General Government Committee,

I am writing to ask you to preserve voting and to reject SB 293.

My two sons have used mail in voting frequently since they became eligible to vote.

My oldest son used mail in voting while he was attending college in Columbus. In his first job, teaching 8th grade American history, he also voted by mail before he registered in the Ohio town where he currently lives.

My youngest attends college in Wisconsin and has voted by mail since it is too difficult to return to Sylvania to vote in person.

I worry that if this bill passes, it will disenfranchise my youngest son, as his mail-in ballot travels a significant distance to get back to Ohio. I worry that other young people, like my oldest son, could be disenfranchised as they get started on their new careers, leaving their hometown.

Both my sons are attempting to follow in the footsteps of their great-grandmother, who voted in every single election from the time she was eligible until her death in 2019, at the age of 97.

I urge you to keep the 4 day post election window open, so that ballots that are properly filled out, postmarked on time, and mailed by the legal deadline will be counted. Voters should not be punished simply because the mail is slow.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Johnson

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