

Dear Chairman Ghanbari, Vice-Chairman Plummer and Ranking Member Thomas,

I urge support for H.B. 472 Ohio Votes Count Act. Critical election legislation to ensure sufficient safeguards and review provisions are in place to validate and verify all eligible electors PRIOR to authorizing qualified elector status. Today, Ohio's County election administrators lack means and procedural controls to validate elector eligibility down to the County Board of Election level. This threatens the integrity of the electoral process and compliance with federal law to maintain accurate and lawful voter registration systems.

**\*\* When a person applies to register to vote at the BMV, online, or by paper registration form, they are not verified to be a US citizen before they are added to Ohio voter rolls.**

**\*\* Even if Ohio BMV officials have non-citizen documents, federal law requires they ask a driver's license/state id applicant if they want to register to vote? How many non-citizens unwittingly register to vote.**

**– HB 472 "Ohio Votes Count Act" requires all voter registration information be validated, and identity and US citizenship verified to ensure every applicant is eligible to vote before adding to Ohio voter rolls.**

**\*\* Servers and other equipment associated with the statewide voter registration database may be physically located in a facility outside of Ohio and controlled by other than the Secretary of State?**

– HB 472 "Ohio Votes Count Act" requires the servers and other equipment associated with the statewide voter registration database be physically located in a facility in Ohio and under the sole control of the Secretary of State.

**\*\* Voting system vendors who provide and maintain voting systems in Ohio may not be subject to the same security and confidentiality requirements as Ohio election officials?**

– **HB 472 "Ohio Votes Count Act"** requires voting system vendors and agents to comply with the same security and confidentiality requirements as Ohio election officials.

**\*\* Members of Ohio's Board of Voting Machine Examiners may be non-citizens, may all be of the same political party, and may have a criminal record or influence/control of entities outside the US?**

– **HB 472 "Ohio Votes Count Act"** requires all Board members to be US citizens, no more than two members be of the same political party and have no criminal record or influence/control of entities outside the US

**HB 472 "Ohio Votes Count Act"** has been assigned to the Homeland Security Committee, and the full bill can be found at link:

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/135/hb472>

House Bill 472 | 135th General Assembly | Ohio Legislature

Attached is a summary of the bill – please take a look and consider joining us in support of this bill!

Sincerely,

Sandie Zimmerman Bell

**Ohio Election Integrity Network "OEIN"**

**Board Member**

**Elections are the lifeline to our Constitutional Republic!**