



# How the SAVE Act disproportionately harms Latino voters and American democracy

The **Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act** would require **all Americans** to present **documentary proof of citizenship in person** when **registering to vote** or **updating their voter registration**. Despite American elections being [secure and well-administered](#) — with [existing safeguards](#) effectively ensuring only citizens vote — this legislation would create **unprecedented barriers to democratic participation**.

The **2024 election cycle**, which was [rife with anti-immigrant disinformation](#) aimed at undermining the integrity of our electoral processes while scapegoating and intimidating **Latino voters**, also [revealed](#) troubling **voter suppression** patterns:

- **Nearly 5 million voters** were wrongly **purged from rolls**.
- **Over 2 million mail-in ballots** were **disqualified** for minor errors.
- **More than 1 million provisional ballots** were **rejected**.
- **Over 3 million new registrations** were **blocked or delayed**.
- **Polling stations were closed**, and **hundreds of drop boxes** were **removed** from **majority-minority communities**.

These barriers disproportionately impacted Latino voters and other voters of color. Rather than addressing these real problems, the SAVE Act would dramatically worsen them. This is particularly alarming considering that in the 2024 election, more eligible voters did *not* cast a ballot (or had their ballot thrown out) than the [number of voters](#) who cast a ballot for either candidate.

Proposals like the SAVE Act make it [more difficult and more costly](#) for Americans to exercise their freedom to vote. Beyond the direct impacts on voters, the bill would **essentially [destroy](#) online and mail-in voter registration** while also [eliminating voter registration drives nationwide](#).

By requiring documentation (like a passport or original birth certificate) that millions of Americans — particularly [voters of color](#), married [women who have changed names](#) and rural voters — [do not readily possess](#), the SAVE Act disguises voter restrictions as a ‘solution’ to a made-up problem, while creating real barriers to voting rights for millions of citizens and **eroding our democratic system and institutions** in the process.

At its core, this legislation is an attack on the fundamental freedom to vote and our established voter registration and elections, significantly [undermining the growing power and influence](#) of the Latino electorate and threatening the strength and health of American democracy.

**Congress should vote against this bill**, which **hampers the ability of eligible voters** to freely and conveniently access the polls and makes it **even harder for every American to vote**.