

*Holding Power Accountable*

## Common Cause Urges “No” Vote on the “SAVE” Act; Will “Score” Vote in our 2024 Democracy Scorecard

July 9, 2024

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Common Cause’s more than 1.5 million members, we write in strong **opposition to the “SAVE Act” (H.R. 8281) and urge a “no” vote**. We will **score this vote** in our forthcoming [2024 Democracy Scorecard](#) that we send to national and state press, as well as all of our members.

The “SAVE Act” is a solution in search of a problem. Noncitizen voting is already illegal at the federal level and is not allowed at the state level in any state. In fact, all voters are already required to affirm or verify their citizenship status when registering to vote in federal elections.

There is cross-ideological recognition that voting by people who aren’t U.S. citizens is incredibly rare. A comprehensive analysis by the [Brennan Center for Justice](#) from the 2016 general election found that out of 23.5 million votes in 42 jurisdictions, only an estimated 30 incidents of suspected noncitizen voting were referred for further investigation or prosecution. This amounts to just 0.0001 percent of votes cast. Additionally, the [Cato Institute](#) concluded in 2020 that “there is no good evidence that noncitizens voted illegally in large enough numbers to actually shift the outcome of elections.” And a [Heritage Foundation](#) analysis of legal actions regarding election conduct found only 24 instances of noncitizens voting between 2003 and 2023.

Requiring documentary proof of citizenship to vote would disenfranchise millions of Republican, Democratic, and independent voters who don’t have a passport, birth certificate, or other form of identification required under this bill. This would disproportionately affect women, voters of color, poorer Americans, and older Americans, thus creating further barriers for these communities, many of whom already face hurdles to having their voices heard.

We therefore urge a “no” vote on the “SAVE Act” and call on the House of Representatives to instead vote on pro-voter bills like the Freedom to Vote Act and John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Sincerely,

Virginia Kase Solomón  
President & CEO  
Common Cause

