

September 10, 2024

RE: Vote “NO” on H.R. 9494 - Continuing Appropriations and Other Matters Act, 2025

Dear Representative:

The American Civil Liberties Union strongly urges you to vote “NO” on H.R. 9494 due to its inclusion of the anti-voter Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act. The American people want a budget process that reflects investments in beneficial federal programs. Instead, this continuing resolution is compromised by politically motivated anti-voter attacks.



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The so-called SAVE Act would require eligible voters to produce proof of citizenship documents to register to vote in federal elections. This bill is anchored in falsehoods and anti-immigrant fearmongering designed to sow distrust in our elections and promote the lie that there is widespread fraud in our elections.

Our current election system and laws already implement robust processes and requirements to ensure safe and secure elections and participation only by eligible voters. In fact, voters in every state are already required to affirm or verify their citizenship status when registering to vote for state and federal elections, and federal law already prohibits noncitizens from voting in federal elections.

In addition, millions of American citizens do not have ready access to a certified birth certificate or a passport, which would be required by this bill to register to vote. This new restriction would disproportionately affect citizens with lower incomes and communities of color. The SAVE Act is plainly unnecessary and would have the suppressive effect of intimidating immigrant communities, newly naturalized citizens, and citizens of color from exercising their lawful right to vote.

We urge you to reject any effort to advance anti-voter measures like the SAVE Act and instead focus on advancing vital voting rights legislation that strengthens protections against voting discrimination and increases access to the ballot, including the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, Freedom to Vote Act, Native American Voting Rights Act, and Washington, D.C. Admission Act.

For these reasons, the ACLU strongly urges you to vote “NO” on passage of H.R. 9494, should it include the SAVE Act or any other anti-civil liberties legislation. Please contact Tara Stutsman at tstutsman@aclu.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Zamore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Zamore
National Policy and Government and Affairs Director