



February 27, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Re: SAVE

Dear Secretary Noem,

Congratulations on your recent appointment and confirmation as the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. DHS's mission of protecting our national security, beginning with a secure border, is critically important to America's future. We look forward to your dedicated leadership and appreciate your strong commitment to our great nation.

As you embark on this important task, we respectfully ask you to focus on another issue that is critical to our future - elections. Tasking the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, a component of the DHS, with prioritizing needed improvements to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program would help us better detect noncitizens attempting to register and/or vote in our elections. As President Trump has explicitly conveyed, ensuring noncitizens do not vote in our elections is crucial to protecting the integrity of elections in our respective states; however, to vigorously and successfully assume this charge, improvements addressing current limitations within the program are vital.

In an effort to provide clarity, we have accumulated some specific enhancements which would address the current challenges including, but not limited to, data limitations (accessibility and accuracy) and financial shortcomings. Suggested improvements:

I. The ability to search multiple voters at once

States must currently enter each person individually for review in the SAVE system to verify citizenship status. This causes significant delays and overly burdensome staff time while attempting to identify the citizenship status of potential voters. By allowing multiple individuals to be searched at once, states can more efficiently identify non-citizens who are registering or attempting to register to vote.¹

II. Increase the quantity of identifying information users may utilize to identify individuals

Users must now have unique identifiers such as Alien Identification Numbers, naturalization numbers, or other similar DHS numbers to ascertain the citizenship status of individuals, yet these numbers do not generally come through the offices of election officials while conducting regular business. Alternatively, during the voter registration process, election officials come into possession of numerous unique identifiers such as date of birth, social security number, and driver's license number. When coupled with the names of individuals, allowing these types of unique identifiers which election officials already possess would allow election officials to more readily identify non-citizens attempting to register to vote.

III. Allowing states to use the SAVE at no cost

SAVE requires both a user fee and a recently increased fee per search. Considering election officials are utilizing this system to ensure noncitizens are not actively voting in state and federal elections, there should be no cost to election officials using federal resources to protect the integrity of said elections.

IV. Provide clear guidance on how and when state election officials may use the SAVE system

Some courts have restricted states from implementing usage of the SAVE system based on conflicting guidance on implementation. Clearly defining the usage parameters and implementation requirements of the system would allow more states to actively protect the integrity of elections without unnecessary interference.

¹ Alternatively, the DHS's United State Citizenship and Immigration Services could facilitate an efficient batch processing method to compare its system data to state-level data, at an agreed upon frequency.

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V. Notify states of applicants for naturalization

It would be helpful to know those who mark “Yes” on the USCIS Form N-400, Part 9, Question 2: “Have you EVER registered to vote or voted in any Federal, state, or local election in the United States?”

Through the implementation of these enhancements, state officials may better serve the entire country, not just their respective constituents. Disallowing interference from noncitizens in the elections process is a fundamental role we must not only assume, but champion. We are hopeful, through your support, significant advancements will be made to further protect the integrity of our state and federal elections.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you to integrate these advancements on behalf of all American citizens. We would be more than happy to meet with you, when convenient, to further discuss.

Sincerely,



Wes Allen
Alabama Secretary of State



Christi Jacobsen
Montana Secretary of State



Cole Jester
Arkansas Secretary of State



Robert Evnen
Nebraska Secretary of State



Brad Raffensperger
Georgia Secretary of State



David Scanlan
New Hampshire Secretary of State



Phil McGrane
Idaho Secretary of State



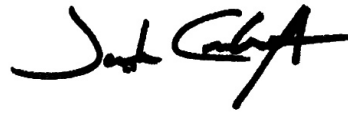
Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

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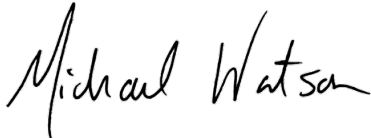
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