

SB153 and HB233 Fail to Align with President Trump’s Executive Order “Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections”

	Executive Order (EO) 14248	SB153/HB233	SB153/HB233 Proposed Amendments that Align with EO 14248
Access to relevant federal databases containing voter eligibility information, including citizenship	Requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Secretary of State to make available to state and local election officials relevant federal databases for verifying voter eligibility, including citizenship.	<p>. The Secretary of State (SOS) does not utilize relevant federal databases - other than DHS SAVE program to confirm noncitizenship status of individuals who have been issued a driver’s license or state ID (DL/ID) and have submitted noncitizen information to the BMV.</p> <p>. Boards of Elections (BOEs) do not have access to any relevant federal or state databases to verify voter eligibility, including citizenship status, despite being having a statutory obligation to do so. Instead, BOEs and poll workers are unreasonably expected to determine citizenship solely through a visual inspection of DPOC, or a copy thereof, that could be a convincing counterfeit.</p>	<p>. Ensure that all federal databases made available under Executive Order 14248 – including those containing information relevant to voter eligibility and citizenship status – are accessible to the Secretary of State and local Boards of Elections for the purpose of verifying voter eligibility.</p>
Documentary Proof of Citizenship (DPOC)	<p>. Require DPOC for all voter registrations.</p> <p>. Expired DPOC is not acceptable for voter registration purposes (e.g., an expired driver’s license does not qualify as valid DPOC).</p> <p>. Out-of-state driver’s licenses or state ID’s are not acceptable as DPOC.</p>	<p>. DPOC is not required before adding applicants to the voter rolls.</p> <p>. Individuals who register with verified driver’s license or state ID information that matches BMV records indicating US citizenship are not required to provide DPOC to vote.</p> <p>. Individuals who register using the last four digits of social security number are required to provide DPOC to vote – despite the fact that citizenship status could be verified through backend matching using relevant federal databases.</p> <p>. Individuals who register using an unverifiable DL/ID or non-matching voter information to BMV records, or no ID at all – must provide DPOC to vote.</p> <p>. Expired and out-of-state DPOC are acceptable, even though many cannot be verified and present security risks.</p> <p>. Tens of thousands of existing voters with unverifiable identification are not required to provide DPOC, unless they update their name or address. This includes voters whose DL/ID, last four digits of social security number, or related registration information does not match BMV or SSA records.</p> <p>. A Daily/Monthly Noncitizen Review is conducted by the SOS, who verifies DPOC (or a copy) prior to elections through undisclosed methods.</p> <p>. During elections, DPOC (or a copy) are “verified by BOEs and temporary poll workers through visual inspection only, which increases the risk of inaccurate citizenship determinations.</p> <p>. Once a voter is marked as “verified” based on visual inspection (even of a copy of DPOC, which is easily falsified) no further citizenship verification is ever conducted through relevant federal databases. This process fails to ensure that only US citizens are voting in Ohio elections.</p>	<p>. Backend citizenship verification is performed whenever possible. All applicants and existing voters will have their US citizenship status verified through relevant federal or state databases. DPOC is not required if citizenship is successfully verified through these databases.</p> <p>. If US citizenship cannot be verified through a relevant federal or state database, the individual must submit DPOC, which must be verified through a relevant federal or state database, or the individual may request a hearing before the local BOE, conducted under oath, and submit alternative documentary evidence of citizenship. The BOE may approve the individual’s eligibility to vote upon a majority vote.</p> <p>. Applicants will not be added to the voter rolls until they are verified as eligible to vote, including citizenship. Until all verifications are complete, their registration will remain in a ‘pending’ status.</p> <p>. Prohibit expired DPOC and out-of-state DL/ID as valid DPOC.</p> <p>. Prohibit temporary poll workers from verifying DPOC.</p> <p>. Require BOEs, not the SOS to verify DPOC using relevant federal or state databases.</p> <p>. A Daily/Monthly Citizen Review is conducted by the SOS, independent of verifying DPOC prior to registration, using relevant federal and state databases, as well as BOE hearing determinations. This process is intended to ensure that only US citizens are registered to vote by identifying individuals who may have been incorrectly or automatically designated as citizens during the registration process.</p> <p>. Once a voter has been verified as a citizen through a Citizen Review, they will not be subject to further review unless new information arises that justifies a re-evaluation.</p>
DPOC Tracking	Requires tracking of the type of DPOC provided and related information	No tracking of the type of DPOC provided and related information	Require tracking of the type DPOC provided and related information.