



March 28, 2025

Dear Representative,

On behalf of Vet Voice Foundation, a nonpartisan organization of nearly 2 million veterans and military families nationwide, I write to express grave concerns regarding the SAVE Act, which would create severe and unnecessary barriers to voting for military personnel, overseas citizens, and millions of other eligible voters.

As a Marine Corps veteran and former Voting Assistance Officer, I know firsthand the importance of ensuring that servicemembers can exercise their fundamental right to vote, even when stationed in remote and challenging environments.

The SAVE Act would impose significant burdens on military and overseas voters by requiring in-person proof of citizenship at a government office in the United States when registering or updating voter registration. This requirement is simply unworkable for servicemembers deployed overseas and would effectively disenfranchise those who have sworn to defend our nation.

Even for military personnel stationed stateside, the bill makes it unnecessarily difficult to register. It fails to recognize military IDs as valid proof of citizenship unless accompanied by additional service records, and it entirely excludes military voters born abroad—many of whom are the children of U.S. service members. This is an unacceptable barrier for those who serve our country.

Beyond the military community, the SAVE Act would make voter registration significantly harder for all Americans by requiring specific documentation—such as a birth certificate or passport—that many eligible voters do not readily have. Millions of Americans, particularly married women, do not have birth certificates that reflect their current legal names, and millions more do not have passports. Additionally, the bill mandates frequent and rushed voter roll purges based on unreliable data, which could result in servicemembers and other voters being wrongfully removed without timely notification, jeopardizing their ability to cast a ballot.

The SAVE Act also undermines state-led efforts to improve access to voter registration by effectively banning or restricting widely used and secure methods such as automatic voter registration, online registration, and mail-in registration. These systems have been instrumental in ensuring voter participation while maintaining election security. Furthermore, the bill places election officials at risk of severe criminal penalties for inadvertent registration errors, discouraging qualified public servants from administering elections effectively.

I urge you to oppose the SAVE Act and any other legislation that creates unnecessary barriers to the ballot box. Instead, I encourage you to come together to advance commonsense, bipartisan policies to protect election integrity while ensuring that every eligible American, especially those serving in uniform, can exercise their fundamental right to vote.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Vet Voice stands ready to support you in these efforts.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janessa Goldbeck', with a stylized, flowing script.

Janessa Goldbeck  
Marine Corps Veteran  
CEO, Vet Voice Foundation