



Fact Sheet: Trump's *SAVE America Act* disenfranchises almost 20 million young people

On February 11th, the Republican-led House of Representatives passed the *SAVE America Act*, a bill that would disenfranchise tens of millions of Americans, **disproportionately young voters**. The bill would make it harder for young people to register to vote and cast their ballots, **leaving an estimated 17 million Americans aged 18 to 29 functionally unable to vote**.

The *SAVE America Act* would increase the logistical barriers that already prevent [roughly 1 in 4 young people](#) from voting. **This “Show Me Your Papers” bill would be the biggest attack on voting rights since Jim Crow. The bill would:**

1. Require in-person voter registration at a county clerk or election office.

- [70% of Gen Z](#) voters registered online or at the DMV, while only [6% of all registrations](#) nationwide in 2022 were completed at a county clerk or election office.
- [Young people are more likely to be registered to vote](#) when online options are available.
- This would impact the [roughly 1 in 5 students](#) enrolled in out-of-state higher education institutions and the [nearly 300,000 American students](#) studying abroad.

2. Create new document requirements to register.

- **In order to register to vote, individuals would be required to provide proof of citizenship** — with the only permitted documents being passports, certificates of U.S. citizenship, tribal photo ID cards, military ID cards, REAL IDs that include citizenship status, or a combination of a birth certificate and valid photo ID.
 - Despite being the most common document used to prove citizenship, [nearly 1 in 2 young Americans](#) don't have a passport.
 - [More than 11 million young people](#) aged 18-29 don't have a current driver's license (including 40% of 18 and 19-year olds) and [3 million young people](#) lack any kind of current government-issued photo ID.
 - The bill's '**name-matching mandate**' requires the name on citizenship documentation to match an individual's current name, which could impact **roughly 2 million young women aged 25-29 who changed their name after marriage**.

3. Impose administrative barriers that will prevent young people from casting their ballots.

- **Create a nationwide photo ID requirement**, while prohibiting student ID as a form of permitted identification. This requirement is [more restrictive than the current voter ID laws in 49 states](#).
 - [More than 11 million](#) young people aged 18-29 don't have a current driver's license.
 - [21% of youth](#) cited ID issues as the reason for not voting, despite being registered.
- **Ban universal ballot distribution programs.**
 - In 2024, [roughly 40% of young people](#) utilized ballot distribution programs to vote.
 - States that automatically send ballots to all registered voters have a [15% higher youth voter turnout rate](#) than states that require an excuse and an application.
- **Requires voters to provide a copy of valid photo ID in order to apply for and return a mail-in ballot.**