



December 5, 2025

Governor Mike DeWine
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Governor DeWine:

We write to urge you to veto Substitute Senate Bill 293 which needlessly and recklessly changes Ohio voting laws to yet again add administrative barriers for Ohio citizens to cast their vote and have it counted. SB 293 eliminates the four-day grace period for timely mailed ballots to be received by Boards of Elections after election day and creates additional mechanisms to cancel voter registrations. In short, the bill will make it harder for older Ohioans, disabled Ohioans, Ohioans without reliable transportation and working Ohioans to exercise their right to vote.

Voting by mail has become increasingly popular in Ohio. In 2024, over 1 million mail ballots were cast and thousands of valid ballots were received after election day. Ohio voters have no ability to control the mail delivery system so even though all of these ballots were postmarked by election day and many were mailed before election day, they arrived later. Ohioans who vote by election day should not lose their right to have their vote count based on unpredictable mail delivery. Every year there are elections decided by a very small number of votes, which means ballots not counted because of this change will not only entirely deny those voters their voice but will also impact election outcomes.

SB 293 will also result in more provisional votes being cast because it will shift more voters to provisional ballots when there is a data mismatch between the voting records and federal lists. The bill procedure does not protect Ohioans against errors in federal databases or entry errors by boards of elections. This unvetted change may also violate the National Voter Registration Act which generally prohibits systematic change in voter status within 90-days of a federal election. Provisional voters are generally not able to vote by mail and there are other technical reasons their vote can be denied. It is in the public interest to avoid unnecessary provisional ballots and unclear instructions for when someone's registration can be questioned.

The bill does not even attempt to balance the reduction in voter access by adding access to vote by mail through online absentee ballot requests, permanent absentee lists, or moving up the time when ballots can be mailed out to voters.

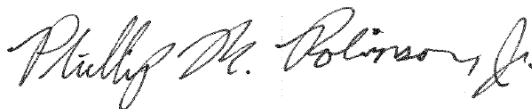
We welcomed your comment in January 2023, “I do not expect to see any further statutory changes to Ohio voting procedures while I am Governor.” S.B. 293 would defy that expectation. This bill is a hurried, ill-considered change to Ohio voting law that was introduced fewer than 60 days ago and had only one hearing in the House before passage. There was no opportunity to hear meaningful feedback from our election officials as all consideration of the bill occurred during the 2025 election process—after early vote had begun and before the results were certified. More importantly, the bill is not necessary or urgent because much of the procedure outside of the harmful provisions is codifying current practice.

For all of the reasons stated above, a veto of S.B. 293 is in the public interest. We hope that you protect Ohioan’s ballot access by vetoing the bill and ensuring that further dialogue and consideration is taken before we put a law into effect that will disenfranchise voters.

Sincerely,



Dani Isaacsohn
Minority Leader
24th House District



Phillip M. Robinson, Jr.
Assistant Minority Leader
19th House District



Beryl Brown Piccolantonio
Minority Whip
4th House District



Desiree Tims
Assistant Minority Whip
38th House District



Dontavius L. Jarrells
State Representative
1st House District



Latyna M. Humphrey
State Representative
2nd House District



Ismail Mohamed
State Representative
3rd House District



Meredith R. Lawson-Rowe
State Representative
5th House District



Christine Cockley
State Representative
6th House District



C. Allison Russo
State Representative
7th House District



Anita Somani, MD
State Representative
8th House District




Munira Abdullahi
State Representative
9th House District



Mark Sigrist
State Representative
10th House District



Crystal Lett
State Representative
11th House District



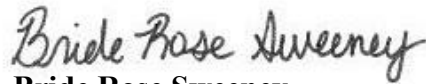
Tristan Rader
State Representative
13th House District



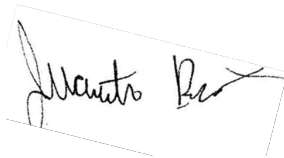
Sean P. Brennan
State Representative
14th House District



Chris Glassburn
State Representative
15th House District



Bride Rose Sweeney
State Representative
16th House District



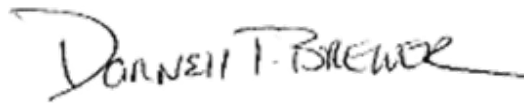
Juanita O. Brent
State Representative
18th House District



Terrence Upchurch
State Representative
20th House District



Eric Synenberg
State Representative
21st House District



Darnell T. Brewer
State Representative
22nd House District



Daniel P. Troy
State Representative
23rd House District



Cecil Thomas
State Representative
25th House District



Ashley Bryant Bailey
State Representative
26th House District



Rachel B. Baker
State Representative
27th House District



Karen Brownlee
State Representative
28th House District



Veronica R. Sims
State Representative
33rd House District



Derrick Hall
State Representative
34th House District



Erika White
State Representative
41st House District



Elgin Rogers, Jr.
State Representative
42nd House District



Michele Grim
State Representative
43rd House District



Joseph A. Miller, III
State Representative
53rd House District



Lauren McNally
State Representative
58th House District