

Additional Public Comments regarding
Petition for rules from the League of Women Voters
Meeting to be reconvened July 8, 2026

Dear Supporter of Election Integrity

I am writing to affirm my strong support for preserving the robust voting laws enacted in South Dakota last year. Do not let this unfounded pressure from the League of Woman Voters soften our laws. These measures are essential for safeguarding the integrity of our elections, ensuring that only eligible citizens participate, and maintaining public confidence in the democratic process.

Key provisions from these laws include requiring proof of U.S. citizenship for new voter registrations (such as through a qualifying driver's license, tribal ID, birth certificate, or passport) and strengthening residency requirements for voter registration. These steps build on existing voter ID rules at the polls and help prevent any potential for non-citizen voting or other irregularities, while still allowing eligible South Dakotans to exercise their right to vote.

In a time when election security is under scrutiny nationwide, South Dakota's approach sets a positive example by prioritizing verifiable eligibility without unnecessary barriers. I urge you to continue defending these laws against any efforts to weaken them. Protecting the sanctity of one-citizen, one-vote is fundamental to fair elections and our state's values.

Thank you for your commitment to election integrity. I stand ready to support ongoing efforts to uphold these protections.

South Dakota Secretary of State Monae Johnson,

The Trump administration is working to weaken the National Voter Registration Act's 90-day protection against systematic voter purges immediately before federal elections.

These purge programs frequently depend on mass database comparisons that can contain outdated or inaccurate information. Eligible American citizens have already been wrongly flagged and removed under similar programs, leaving them to navigate bureaucratic barriers before they can exercise their fundamental right to vote.

Use every lawful power available to protect voters in our state. Enforce the 90-day quiet period, reject mass database matches as sufficient evidence for cancellation, and ensure

local election officials do not remove eligible voters through rushed or politically motivated challenges.

Any voter whose registration is questioned must receive immediate notice and a meaningful opportunity to correct the record. Eligible voters removed in error must be restored quickly, and the public must have clear information about checking registration status and resolving problems.

Please also resist improper federal demands for sensitive voter information and challenge any attempt to force our state into an unlawful voter-purge operation. The Attorney General must be prepared to defend these protections in court, while the Secretary of State must ensure that every county follows them.

Protect every eligible voter and make clear that our state will not participate in attempts to manipulate the voter rolls before Election Day.

Please REJECT the Leftist League of Women Voters proposed rules.

To the SD Sec of State, Deputy Sec, and the SD Board of Elections members:

As a citizen of South Dakota, I am asking each of you to support and protect the SAVE SD Act, which was passed and signed into law here in South Dakota.

It seems that the League of Women Voters may be trying to "water down" the requirements of this law, and if this is true, I also ask you to reject their work against the SAVE SD Act.

This petition is hoping to override sb68/2025 and sb175/2026. It interferes with preventing non citizens from voting in our elections. ID for proven citizenship to vote is the only way to maintain our sovereign nation and Sd citizens authority over our state. This leads to open season of unethical power grabbing of the rights of each citizen of Sd. The league of women's voters were not voted in to represent anyone in Sd the bills above were passed by our representatives. Follow the laws put in place by our duly elected legislators deny this petition.

As a voter of South Dakota for 3-plus centuries, I respectfully ask that you reject the League of Women Voter's proposal that has been presented to you. Having worked in the legal field for 46 years, I smell a rat here and I don't like it!!!

Good morning!

I understand that the League of Women Voters has petitioned the SOS to weaken and confuse the process of the South Dakota's SAVE Act (SB68 and SB175).

As a woman voter, an American citizen, and a South Dakota resident I am exploring you to REJECT their petition. Just as it is critical nation wide to secure our elections, it is also extremely critical that we do the same for all elections at the state level as well. It is a simple process to get birth certificates, marriage certificates, etc.. to confirm citizenship for all women.

This includes the verifying and correctly testing of the counting machines; not using hackable, susceptible, and easily accessible machines from foreign countries (ES&S).

Since we are a state with a smaller population, we should go back to hand counting state wide instead of using these machines, in my opinion.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Coming to you with another request and that is to PLEASE REJECT the PETITION from the League of Women Voters which will be coming forward to the Board of Elections on July 8th.. This petition is in direct conflict with the laws and is a huge step backwards from what the legislature voted on and approved and what the People of SD want. The legislature passed SB68 in 2025 and SB175 in 2026. Read the bills if you can't recall what they say but do NOT pass this petition. Elections are considered critical infrastructure - help protect them and honor the legislation that has been put into place to protect our votes.

Please hear the people of your state as we DEMAND you Reject that petition.

Honorable Secretary Johnson:

I just wanted to take a moment to respond with some general statements regarding the proposed rules submitted by the League of Women Voters of South Dakota (LWV of SD) and their demand for the Board to Promulgate Rules.

Please know that SB175 did not call for the Board of Elections (BOE) to be involved in making rules for this change in law. So I would find no reason for the (BOE) to insert rule making authority for this change in law. If our Legislators and the Governor wanted the BOE to be involved in the rule making on this bill they would have included such language.

SDCL 12-4-1.4 which was amended after the signing of SB175 clearly states which documents can be provided via a photocopy and which must be presented in the original form. Know that while the Auditor can make a photocopy of the Driver's License or Identification Card (after examining the original), we must see that actual document, because there is no proof that the backside of the document is connected to the person presenting the DL or ID. Allowing the voter to submit a photocopy of their DL or ID would be problematic and in my opinion is material in determining proof of U.S. Citizenship. In fact, the public assistance offices should also not be permitted to include a photocopy of DL or ID since it can be easily manipulated. Maybe the best corrective action would be to require the DMV to include the identifying number on the backside as well as the frontside of the DL or ID card.

While we would love to have consistent advice from your office in how to handle the "sudden" implementation of the law. We also understand that this law did have an emergency clause for implementation and we knew that as soon as the Governor signed it into law, that it was effective. This is not "sudden" in my view as the legislation was public and the public was informed of the emergency clause.

Know also that adding more information to the already lengthy registration form is not a good solution. I wholeheartedly disagree with the LWV of SD on this topic, as we already have problems getting fully completed registration forms. Many voters also do not use the forms issued and prepared by the State of South Dakota. There are many generic forms that are used in voter registration drives which are also not consistent with explaining all of our laws, yet we are required to accept those forms.

I would encourage you and the BOE to deny the proposed request by the LWV of SD to promulgate rules in regard to the outcome of SB175.

We're very concerned when we hear

that the League of Women Voters and other NGOs are petitioning to stop the enforcement of 2025 SB 68 Requirement for Proof of US citizenship to vote in South Dakota elections and 2026 SB 175 Requirement for Proof of US citizenship to register to vote in South Dakota elections.

These and all elections bills passed and signed into law in the last two years are critical for ensuring that only people who are citizens and qualified to register and vote in South Dakota are allowed to.

Two elections in Minnehaha County alone for House D11 and D15 in 2024 were decided by 10 and 7 votes respectively. I was the candidate for House D11. We identified many voters in those elections cast by people who are not legal residents in South Dakota. We must defend our election to ensure only legal US citizens and South Dakota residents can register and vote in our elections.

Please reject the petition to change the voter registration form as recommended by the League of Women Voters. Please keep the registration process secure. Thank you for your consideration.

Please REJECT the petition filed by the League of Women Voters!!

I am asking you to REJECT the petition filed by the League of Women Voters! NO photocopies of drivers license to be used to register to vote.

This is in regard to the petition to allow photo copies of drivers license's to be used as valid identification to register to vote. This is not accepted for any important identification and should not be allowed for voting as well.

Dear Madam SD Secretary of State, Mr. SD Deputy Secretary of State, and Honorable SD Board of Election Members,

I am writing with a request that you sign and codify in to South Dakota State law: SB68 and SB 175 promptly.

Additionally, the League of Women Voters petition requesting allowance of photo copies of a SD State Drivers License to register voters is concerning, nefarious, and must not be approved due to obvious potential fraudulent use.

The SD election system and voter identification must be secure and South Dakota's SAVE Act must become state law.

Additional Public Comments added 7.8.26 at 1:16pm

This is in regard to the petition to allow photocopies of drivers licenses to be used for valid ID to register to vote. This is not acceptable for any other important use of Identification. We need more proof not less.

Dear Madam SD Secretary of State, Mr. SD Deputy Secretary of State, and Honorable SD Board of Election Members,

I am writing with a request that you sign and codify in to South Dakota State law: SB68 and SB 175 promptly.

Additionally, the League of Women Voters petition requesting allowance of photo copies of a SD State Drivers License to register voters is concerning, nefarious, and must not be approved due to obvious potential fraudulent use.

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SB175 was passed by the Legislature in 2026, implementing Documentary Proof of Citizenship to Vote, complementing the DMV acceptable forms of ID, very clearly laying out the ONLY forms of ID the auditors can accept as proof of citizenship. No where in the bill does it provide any authorization for the unelected BOE to make rules regarding this bill. The BOE needs to follow the law as written and disregard the LOW's petition.

Please REJECT the petition filed by the League of Women Voters! Thank you!

Hi Monae, I am asking for you to REJECT the petition filed by the league of women voters! NO Photocopies of drivers license to be used to register to vote.

Please reject the petition to change the voter registration form as recommended by the League of Women Voters. Please keep the registration process secure. Thank you for your consideration.

I am asking you to reject this ridiculous petition. It is clearly an attempt to undermine our efforts to make our elections fair and free of cheating. Please support the people of our state and protect us from fraudulent elections. If we can't trust our elections, our is doomed. Stop these evil doers PLEASE

Good morning!

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Since we are a state with a smaller population, we should go back to hand counting state wide instead of using these machines, in my opinion.

As a voter of South Dakota for 3-plus centuries, I respectfully ask that you reject the League of Women Voter's proposal that has been presented to you. Having worked in the legal field for 46 years, I smell a rat here and I don't like it!!!

This petition is an attempt to over ride the bills sb68/ 2025 and sb175/2026 which secure our elections by requiring ONLY US Sd citizens vote in our elections. A very basic requirement to maintain control of our country by legal citizens. These bills need to be put into action as legislators and the citizens of this state intended. Not be held up and preceded by a petition from a league that has not been voted to represent the citizens of Sd.

Please REJECT the Leftist League of Women Voters proposed rules.

Ms. Johnson,

Please REJECT the petition presented by the League of Women Voters. Our legislators passed the election bills the people wanted. We are represented by our elected legislators, not some out-of-state activist group that seeks to weaken our laws. Please do the job you were elected to do—safeguard our elections! Thank you.

The legislature in the past two sessions made some very common sense laws relating to only citizens can vote, and only citizens can register to vote.

Please do not water down the vote of US citizens by allowing photocopies of things like driver's license (where you can't tell if the "citizen" is the same as the person on the copy of the front.)

There were no options for rulemaking in the bills; do not insert them.

As you develop rules for Senate Bill 175, please make the process as simple, affordable, and consistent as possible for eligible U.S. citizens registering to vote.

The new documentation requirement may be especially burdensome for first-time voters, people who have changed their names, domestic violence survivors, Tribal citizens, rural residents, older adults, and those who have lost or cannot easily obtain original documents.

Please establish clear, uniform rules for all 66 counties, including reasonable options for submitting copies rather than requiring every voter to appear in person with original documents. Voters should not face different requirements depending on where they live.

The rules should also avoid unnecessary costs, travel, missed work, and long delays. Replacing documents can be expensive and take months, which could prevent an eligible citizen from registering in time to vote.

SB 175 is now law, but its implementation should not disenfranchise U.S. citizens. Please adopt rules that protect both election integrity and meaningful access to the ballot.

Thank you for your consideration.

I am writing as a South Dakotan, a naturalized [U.S. citizen](#), and someone who has spent years encouraging civic participation across our state.

I believe every eligible citizen deserves a voting process that is consistent, understandable, and fairly administered.

The reports that different counties are applying the law differently concern me. Eligible voters should not receive different treatment depending on where they happen to register.

I respectfully ask the Board to adopt rules that:

- provide clear and uniform guidance for all county auditors,
- clearly notify voters if they have been designated as federal-only voters and explain how they may appeal or correct that designation,
- reduce unnecessary barriers for eligible citizens while remaining faithful to state law, and

- recognize the practical realities faced by tribal citizens, survivors of domestic violence, older adults, naturalized citizens, and others who may encounter difficulty obtaining or replacing documents.

Confidence in elections depends not only on secure elections but also on fair, consistent administration.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to South Dakota.

Dear State Board of Elections,

I am writing as a citizen of Sioux Falls, SD. I am urging you to consider fair and clear rules for citizens to vote in each county after the passing of Senate Bill 175. Below I have outlined what is important to me in having fair and clear rules.

1. Make the rules simple and clear for those registering for the first time to avoid people being confused and disengaging from the registration process to vote.
2. Consider and reduce the burden on the US Citizen voting for the first time. This bill can create more steps to register if they have had a name change, domestic violence victims with unstable housing, Tribal citizens, people who live far from town, older adults, people who have lost their documents, and anyone who may have a hard time getting documents they need.
3. Give clear directions to auditors and voters to follow to avoid confusion.
4. Consider and follow through in keeping costs low for the US Citizen. This law can require citizens to pay for birth certificates, passports, Naturalization Certificates, marriage papers, travel, or time away from work.

I value every US Citizen's right to vote and appreciate your time and commitment to that right in our democracy.

I am writing to request that the petition submitted by the League of Women Voters be rejected. In 2026, SB175 - an act to require that an individual provide proof of citizenship when registering to vote and to declare an emergency passed overwhelmingly in both the House and Senate and was signed into law by Governor Rhoden on March 26, 2026. In 2025, SB68 -an act to require an individual be a citizen of the United States before being eligible to vote and to provide a penalty therefor also passed overwhelmingly in both chambers and was signed by Governor Rhoden on March 25, 2025. SB68 specifically lists acceptable forms of identification when one is registering to vote. The rules that are being proposed by the LWV conflict with SD state statute. In addition, there is no provision for rulemaking in SB175. I would ask that the Board of Elections follow the laws that were put

into place by those elected to represent South Dakotans and ensure the integrity of our elections by rejecting the LWV petition.