

Talking Points

The SAVE Act

National Council of Jewish Women's (NCJW) Message

National Council of Jewish Women envisions an America where each of us is able to exercise the full spectrum of rights our citizenship affords. An America where each of us can make our voice heard and can participate in elections without obstacles and an America where our democracy works for us, not against us. As Jewish advocates, we have a responsibility to pursue *tzedek*, or justice, above all else – and ensuring equal access to the ballot box is the foundation of a just democracy. The “Safeguard American Voter Eligibility” (SAVE) Act threatens our just democracy by putting up barriers for millions of eligible voters to cast their ballot. **Congress must protect the sacred right to vote and oppose the SAVE Act.**

Background:

- **The “Safeguard American Voter Eligibility” (SAVE) Act** (HR 22) requires voters to present proof of citizenship, such as a passport or birth certificate, when registering to vote.
- This dangerous bill perpetuates a false narrative that scores of noncitizens are voting in our elections, stoking anti-immigrant sentiment in order to put up barriers for millions of eligible voters to cast their ballot.
- This is an issue of racial and economic justice, gender equity, and systemic barriers to voting. Millions of Americans — especially younger voters, voters of color, the elderly, low-income individuals, and women — lack easy access to the documents required by the SAVE Act.

Talking Points:

- **If enacted, this bill would prevent millions who lack either necessary document from registering to vote, effectively barring them from casting a ballot.** Millions of Americans do not have the documentation required by this bill.
- **This bill disproportionately harms women.** Up to [69 million](#) married women lack a birth certificate matching their legal name and [146 million](#) Americans lack a passport. Millions of women caught in between who lack either document may therefore be unable to prove citizenship, barring them from registering to vote and from voting altogether.
- As advocates for equity and justice, we have a duty to speak out against the SAVE Act's threat to the voting rights of millions — women, low-income voters, voters of color, older voters, and many others.
- Congress has an obligation to uphold justice and protect the sacred right to vote for every American. ***Our leaders can take a stand against this harmful attempt at large-scale voter suppression by voting NO on the SAVE Act and by uplifting the broad spectrum of communities who will be harmed by this bill.***