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## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Honorable Michael Johnson Speaker of the House U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act

## Dear Gentlemen:

As the chief legal officers in our states, we write to strongly support the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility ("SAVE") Act. The SAVE Act will ensure election integrity by protecting our elections from illegal voters. This simple, common-sense reform garners broad support among Americans. We urge Congress to pass it.

To that end, yesterday a <u>bipartisan group of legislators</u> in the House passed the SAVE Act. Unfortunately, hundreds of democrats voted against this common-sense measure. The Senate now, too, should pass this measure to help take a meaningful step to secure our elections.

President Biden's immigration policies have been a disaster. On his first day in office, President Biden <u>signed six executive orders</u> reversing President Trump's successful immigration policies. As even Senator Mark <u>Kelly recently recognized</u>, the border during President Biden's tenure is "out of control." President Biden's terrible immigration policies have created the worst border crisis in American history. A congressional report recently concluded that the Biden Administration <u>released 5.3 million illegal immigrants</u> into the United States through "parole" programs. The Border Patrol reports that at least <u>1.6 million more illegal immigrants</u> have snuck into the country under President Biden's watch. <u>Convicted criminals</u> have attempted to enter the country at record-high rates. And so have the numbers of <u>potential terrorists</u>. Americans

are less safe today because of President Biden's immigration failures. But that does not mean that our elections should be less safe, too.

President Biden's immigration disaster now threatens the security of America's elections. During this surge in illegal immigration, <u>cities</u> and <u>States</u> across the country have started allowing noncitizens to vote in their elections. But allowing illegal voters in State and local elections, while bad enough, does not remain confined to just those elections. Indeed, some States have taken an even odder approach. <u>Arizona's Secretary of State explains</u> that voters who register to vote without proof of citizenship will be designated "federal-only" voters, meaning they are allowed to vote in federal, but not state or local, elections. <u>Ohio recently found and removed</u> noncitizens from its voter rolls.

Even only a few votes can make a large difference in a federal election. Recent elections for the House, Senate, and even president have been decided by just hundreds or thousands of votes. Indeed, one of Iowa's current Congresswomen was first elected to the House of Representatives by a margin of only six votes. Given those narrow margins, the votes of illegal immigrants and other noncitizens—illegal votes—could decide control of Congress or even the White House. And two of our undersigned Attorneys General previously served as their State's secretary of state and state's chief election officers and recognize the necessity of such a measure to secure our elections. As law enforcement officers we strongly support efforts to prevent that from happening.

The SAVE Act protects our elections from illegal immigrants and upholds the rule of law. Under the SAVE Act, individuals must provide proof of citizenship when registering to vote. The SAVE Act also will help States identify and remove illegal immigrants from their voter registration rolls by providing States with access to federal databases. Those simple, common-sense reforms will protect our elections.

Americans deserve to have confidence in the security of our elections. The SAVE Act provides needed security by ensuring that only Americans participate in America's elections. We strongly encourage you to pass the SAVE Act.

Sincerely,

Brenna Bird

Iowa Attorney General

Brenn Bird

Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General

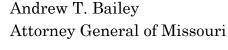


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