Do Not pass Anti-Voter Bill HB-294 - it is restrictive to voter access to freely cast their votes.

Why is this important?

HB-294 is a regressive bill looking for a problem. Nothing within this proposed measure would do anything to prevent voter fraud but will absolutely inconvenience Ohio voters and create confusion, create longer lines to vote, reduce voter participation and further increase voter apathy.
HB-294 will do the following (summarized):
- Limits duration of drop box availability
- Cuts the number of early voting days
- Cuts off vote-by-mail ballot requests a week earlier
- Creates a new three-tier ID rule

(HB-294 -VOTER SUPPRESSION BILL IN DETAIL)

1. Limits counties to one ballot drop box location the last 10 days before an election—regardless of how large or populated a county is. Voters in Ohio’s highest population counties sat in traffic jams at drop boxes last year but counties will be prohibited from making drop boxes more accessible.

2. Eliminates one of the busiest final three days of early voting - Monday. In 2020, some 31,413 Ohio voters voted the day before Election Day.

3. Cuts off mail ballot requests at 10 days before the election, which would make Ohio more restrictive than 40+ other states. In 2020, some 451,863 Ohio voters requested a ballot the final week. In that time, 413,093 voters requested and returned their ballots.

4. Voters would be subject to a new three-tier ID rule with photo ID as the preference. 58.6% of voters, more than 3.5 million, voted by mail in 2020.

5. If a vote-by-mail ballot is not sealed in the voter ID envelope -- but inside the return envelope —it will be thrown out.

6. Makes ban on public offices paying return postage even stricter than current law. Paying voters’ return postage would remove a barrier to voting by mail.
ACTION STEPS

Call your legislator and the sponsors / co-sponsors of HB294.

Email your legislator and the sponsors of HB 294.

Write a letter to the editor.

AMPLIFY THE MESSAGE BY SHARING THESE HASH TAGS ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

#OhioAntiVoterBill
#OurRightToVote
#FreedomToVote

Sample script:

Hi! My name is _____________ I’m calling to voice my opposition to HB 294. House Bill 294 is a divisive and dangerous anti-voter bill that contains many of the same attacks on our fundamental freedom to vote that we have seen passed in Georgia and other states. We all want safe and accessible elections, but Ohio Legislators are pushing new anti-voter legislation that will take us in the wrong direction. Any bill that rolls back our access to the ballot box or our right to vote is unacceptable. Ohio already has enough anti-voter laws. We don’t need any more.

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Elections in Ohio are Safe and Fair. In an article written Jan. 23rd, 2021 by Emily Morgan of The Daily Record, The current Secretary of State, Frank LaRose, stated “for election fraud to occur on a wide a scale, dozens of Republicans and dozens of Democrats who all work for the elections board would have to collaborate on committing a felony and keep it completely quiet.” He also went on to say, “I think we ran the most successful election we’ve ever had.”

Any bill that rolls back our right to vote should be shut down. Period. Share with other Ohioans to let them know that conservative legislator our enforcing big government to attack their fundamental freedom to vote.

Below is the emails and phone numbers of sponsors and co-sponsors:
Sponsors of HB 294
Rep. Bill Seitz (R) email: Rep30@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-8258
Rep. Sharon Ray (R) email: Rep69@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-8140

Co-Sponsors:
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Rep. Brian Baldridge (R) email: Rep90@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-2124
Rep. Adam C. Bird (R) email: Rep66@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-644-6034
Rep. Rick Carfagna (R) email: Rep68@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-1431
Rep. Sara P. Carruthers (R) Rep51@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-644-6721
Rep. Gary Click (R) email: Rep88@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-1374
Rep. Jon Cross (R) email: Rep83@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-3819
Rep. Al Cutrona (R) email: Rep59@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-6107
Rep. Mark Fraizer (R) email: Rep71@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-1482
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Rep. Timothy E. Ginter (R) email: Rep5@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-466-8022
Rep. Thomas Hall (R) email: Rep53@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-644-5094
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Rep. Don Jones (R) email: Rep95@ohiohouse.gov Ph# 614-644-8728
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Rep. Jean Schmidt (R) Rep65@ohiohouse.gov  Ph# 614-466-8134

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