

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8781

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require individuals applying to register to vote in elections for Federal office to provide a complete Social Security number with the application, to require States to use Social Security numbers to cross-check the identifications of individuals who vote in elections for Federal office in the State with the identifications of individuals who are registered to vote in such elections, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Mr. BANKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require individuals applying to register to vote in elections for Federal office to provide a complete Social Security number with the application, to require States to use Social Security numbers to cross-check the identifications of individuals who vote in elections for Federal office in the State with the identifications of individuals who are registered to vote in such elections, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Restoring Faith in Our  
3 Elections Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING APPLICANTS FOR VOTER REGISTRA-**  
5 **TION TO PROVIDE FULL SOCIAL SECURITY**  
6 **NUMBERS.**

7 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Section 303(a)(5)(A) of the  
8 Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C.  
9 21083(a)(5)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

10 “(A) REQUIRING APPLICANTS TO PROVIDE  
11 FULL SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.—Notwith-  
12 standing any other provision of law, an applica-  
13 tion for voter registration for an election for  
14 Federal office may not be accepted or processed  
15 by a State unless the application includes the  
16 applicant’s full Social Security number.”.

17 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO CER-  
18 TAIN VOTERS REGISTERING BY MAIL.—Section  
19 303(b)(3)(B)(i) of such Act (52 U.S.C.  
20 21083(b)(3)(B)(i)) is amended by striking “either—” and  
21 all that follows through “; and” and inserting “the individ-  
22 ual’s full Social Security number; and”.

23 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO WAIV-  
24 ER OF PRIVACY ACT.—Section 303(c) of such Act (52  
25 U.S.C. 21083(c)) is amended to read as follows:

1       “(c) PERMITTED USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUM-  
2 BERS.—Section 7 of the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C.  
3 552a note) does not apply to the use of a Social Security  
4 number under subsection (a)(5)(A) or subsection  
5 (b)(3)(B)(i).”.

6       (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
7 this section shall apply with respect to elections held in  
8 2022 or any succeeding year.

9 **SEC. 3. USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS TO CROSS-**  
10 **CHECK IDENTIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS**  
11 **CASTING BALLOTS IN ELECTIONS WITH INDI-**  
12 **VIDUALS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN ELEC-**  
13 **TIONS.**

14       (a) REQUIRING CROSS-CHECK OF IDENTIFICA-  
15 TIONS.—Title III of the Help America Vote Act of 2002  
16 (52 U.S.C. 21081 et seq.) is amended—

17           (1) by redesignating sections 304 and 305 as  
18 sections 305 and 306; and

19           (2) by inserting after section 303 the following  
20 new section:

1 **“SEC. 304. USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS TO CROSS-**  
2 **CHECK IDENTIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS**  
3 **CASTING BALLOTS IN AN ELECTION WITH IN-**  
4 **DIVIDUALS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN THE**  
5 **ELECTION.**

6 “(a) REQUIREMENT.—Immediately upon the closing  
7 of the polls in an election for Federal office, each State  
8 shall verify the identification of each individual who cast  
9 a ballot in the election by carrying out a cross-check of  
10 the individual’s identification with the individual’s identi-  
11 fication in the official list of individuals who are registered  
12 to vote in the election, using the individual’s full Social  
13 Security number as the method for determining the indi-  
14 vidual’s identification.

15 “(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 7 days  
16 after the closing of the polls in an election for Federal  
17 office, the State shall submit to the Committee on House  
18 Administration of the House of Representatives and the  
19 Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate a  
20 report on the State’s compliance with subsection (a), and  
21 shall include in the report—

22 “(1) the percentage of individuals who cast  
23 votes in the election whose identifications were  
24 verified by the State under such subsection; and

25 “(2) the number of individuals who cast votes  
26 in the election, or who attempted to cast votes in the

1 election, whose identifications could not be verified  
2 by the State under such subsection.

3 “(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply  
4 with respect to elections held in 2022 or any succeeding  
5 year.”.

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO EN-  
7 FORCEMENT.—Section 401 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21111)  
8 is amended by striking “and 303” and inserting “303, and  
9 304”.

10 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
11 of such Act is amended—

12 (1) by redesignating the items relating to sec-  
13 tions 304 and 305 as relating to sections 305 and  
14 306; and

15 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-  
16 tion 303 the following:

“Sec. 304. Use of Social Security numbers to cross-check identifications of indi-  
viduals casting ballots in an election with individuals registered  
to vote in the election.”.

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