

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4477

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to establish requirements for the administration of elections for public office in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 6, 2023

Mr. CLINE 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 establish requirements for the administration of elections for public office in the District of Columbia, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Confidence  
5 in Elections: District of Columbia Election Integrity and  
6 Voter Confidence Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTIONS IN DISTRICT OF**  
2 **COLUMBIA.**

3 (a) REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED.—Title III of the  
4 Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21801 et seq.)  
5 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
6 title:

7 **“Subtitle C—Requirements for**  
8 **Elections in District of Columbia**

9 **“SEC. 321. STATEMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORITY;**  
10 **FINDINGS.**

11 “Congress finds that it has the authority to establish  
12 the terms and conditions for the administration of elec-  
13 tions for public office in the District of Columbia—

14 “(1) under article I, section 8, clause 17 of the  
15 Constitution of the United States, which grants Con-  
16 gress the exclusive power to enact legislation with  
17 respect to the seat of the government of the United  
18 States; and

19 “(2) under other enumerated powers granted to  
20 Congress.

21 **“SEC. 322. REQUIREMENTS FOR PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.**

22 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the  
23 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
24 Voter Identification Act’.

25 “(b) REQUIRING PROVISION OF IDENTIFICATION TO  
26 RECEIVE A BALLOT OR VOTE.—

1           “(1) INDIVIDUALS VOTING IN PERSON.—A Dis-  
2           trict of Columbia election official may not provide a  
3           ballot for a District of Columbia election to an indi-  
4           vidual who desires to vote in person unless the indi-  
5           vidual presents to the official an identification de-  
6           scribed in paragraph (3).

7           “(2) INDIVIDUALS VOTING OTHER THAN IN  
8           PERSON.—A District of Columbia election official  
9           may not provide a ballot for a District of Columbia  
10          election to an individual who desires to vote other  
11          than in person unless the individual submits with  
12          the application for the ballot a copy of an identifica-  
13          tion described in paragraph (3).

14          “(3) IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBED.—An identi-  
15          fication described in this paragraph is, with respect  
16          to an individual, any of the following:

17                 “(A) A current and valid motor vehicle li-  
18                 cense issued by the District of Columbia or any  
19                 other current and valid photo identification of  
20                 the individual which is issued by the District of  
21                 Columbia or the identification number for such  
22                 motor vehicle license or photo identification.

23                 “(B) A current and valid United States  
24                 passport, a current and valid military photo  
25                 identification, or any other current and valid

1 photo identification of the individual which is  
2 issued by the Federal Government.

3 “(C) Any current and valid photo identi-  
4 fication of the individual which is issued by a  
5 Tribal Government.

6 “(D) A student photo identification issued  
7 by a secondary school (as such term is defined  
8 in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-  
9 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
10 7801)) or an institution of higher education (as  
11 such term is defined in section 101 of the High-  
12 er Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)).

13 “(E) The last 4 digits of the individual’s  
14 social security number.

15 “(4) ENSURING PROOF OF RESIDENCE.—If an  
16 individual presents or submits an identification de-  
17 scribed in paragraph (3) which does not include the  
18 address of the individual’s residence, the District of  
19 Columbia election official may not provide a ballot to  
20 the individual unless the individual presents or sub-  
21 mits a document or other written information from  
22 a third party which—

23 “(A) provides the address of the individ-  
24 ual’s residence; and

1           “(B) such document or other written infor-  
2           mation is of sufficient validity such that the  
3           election official is reasonably certain as to the  
4           identity of the individual.

5           “(c) PROVISION OF IDENTIFICATION WITHOUT COST  
6 TO INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS.—If the District of Columbia  
7 charges an individual a fee for an identification described  
8 in subsection (b)(3) and the individual provides an attesta-  
9 tion that the individual is unable to afford the fee, the  
10 District of Columbia shall provide the identification to the  
11 individual at no cost.

12           “(d) SPECIAL RULE WITH RESPECT TO SINCERELY  
13 HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEFS.—In the case of an individual  
14 who is unable to comply with the requirements of sub-  
15 section (b) due to sincerely held religious beliefs, the Dis-  
16 trict of Columbia shall provide such individual with an al-  
17 ternative identification that shall be deemed to meet the  
18 requirements of an identification described in subsection  
19 (b)(3).

20           “(e) DESIGNATION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
21 AGENCY TO PROVIDE COPIES OF IDENTIFICATION.—The  
22 Mayor of the District of Columbia shall designate an agen-  
23 cy of the District of Columbia Government to provide an  
24 individual with a copy of an identification described in

1 subsection (b)(3) at no cost to the individual for the pur-  
2 poses of meeting the requirement under subsection (b)(2).

3 “(f) INCLUSION OF PHOTOS IN POLL BOOKS.—

4 “(1) METHODS FOR OBTAINING PHOTOS.—

5 “(A) PROVISION OF PHOTOS BY OFFICES  
6 OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT.—If  
7 any office of the District of Columbia Govern-  
8 ment has a photograph or digital image of the  
9 likeness of an individual who is eligible to vote  
10 in a District of Columbia election, the office, in  
11 consultation with the chief election official of  
12 the District of Columbia, shall provide access to  
13 the photograph or digital image to the chief  
14 election official of the District of Columbia.

15 “(B) TAKING OF PHOTOS AT POLLING  
16 PLACE.—If a photograph or digital image of an  
17 individual who votes in person at a polling place  
18 is not included in the poll book which contains  
19 the name of the individuals who are eligible to  
20 vote in the District of Columbia election and  
21 which is used by election officials to provide  
22 ballots to such eligible individuals, the appro-  
23 priate election official shall take a photograph  
24 of the individual and provide access to the pho-

1           tograph to the chief election official of the Dis-  
2           trict of Columbia.

3           “(C) COPIES OF PHOTOS PROVIDED BY IN-  
4           DIVIDUALS NOT VOTING IN PERSON.—The elec-  
5           tion official who receives a copy of an identifica-  
6           tion described in subsection (b)(3) which is sub-  
7           mitted by an individual who desires to vote  
8           other than in person at a polling place shall  
9           provide access to the copy of the identification  
10          to the chief election official of the District of  
11          Columbia.

12          “(2) INCLUSION IN POLL BOOKS.—The chief  
13          election official of the District of Columbia shall en-  
14          sure that a photograph, digital image, or copy of an  
15          identification for which access is provided under  
16          paragraph (1) is included in the poll book which con-  
17          tains the name of the individuals who are eligible to  
18          vote in the District of Columbia election and which  
19          is used by election officials to provide ballots to such  
20          eligible individuals.

21          “(3) PROTECTION OF PRIVACY OF VOTERS.—  
22          The appropriate election officials of the District of  
23          Columbia shall ensure that any photograph, digital  
24          image, or copy of an identification which is included  
25          in a poll book under this subsection is not used for

1 any purpose other than the administration of Dis-  
2 trict of Columbia elections and is not provided or  
3 otherwise made available to any other person except  
4 as may be necessary to carry out that purpose.

5 “(g) EXCEPTIONS.—This section does not apply with  
6 respect to any individual who is—

7 “(1) entitled to vote by absentee ballot under  
8 the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Vot-  
9 ing Act (52 U.S.C. 20301 et seq.);

10 “(2) provided the right to vote otherwise than  
11 in person under section 3(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Voting  
12 Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act  
13 (52 U.S.C. 20102(b)(2)(B)(ii)); or

14 “(3) entitled to vote otherwise than in person  
15 under any other Federal law.

16 “(h) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section,  
17 the following definitions apply:

18 “(1) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’  
19 has the meaning given the term ‘Indian tribe’ in sec-  
20 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
21 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

22 “(2) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘Tribal  
23 Government’ means the recognized governing body  
24 of an Indian Tribe.



1 **“SEC. 323. REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTER REGISTRATION.**

2 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
3 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
4 Voter List Maintenance Act’.

5 “(b) **ANNUAL LIST MAINTENANCE.**—

6 “(1) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

7 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The District of Co-  
8 lumbia shall carry out annually a program to  
9 remove ineligible persons from the official list of  
10 persons registered to vote in the District of Co-  
11 lumbia, as required by section 8 of the National  
12 Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C.  
13 20507) and pursuant to the procedures de-  
14 scribed in subparagraph (B).

15 “(B) **REMOVAL FROM VOTER ROLLS.**—In  
16 the case of a registrant from the official list of  
17 eligible voters in District of Columbia elections  
18 who has failed to vote in a District of Columbia  
19 election during a period of two consecutive  
20 years, the District of Columbia shall send to  
21 such registrant a notice described in section  
22 8(d)(2) of the National Voter Registration Act  
23 of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20507(d)(2)) and shall re-  
24 move the registrant from the official list of eli-  
25 gible voters in District of Columbia elections  
26 if—

1 “(i) the registrant fails to respond to  
2 such notice; and

3 “(ii) the registrant has not voted or  
4 appeared to vote in a District of Columbia  
5 election during the period beginning the  
6 date such notice is sent and ending the  
7 later of 4 years after the date such notice  
8 is sent or after two consecutive District of  
9 Columbia general elections have been held.

10 “(2) TIMING.—In the case of a year during  
11 which a regularly scheduled District of Columbia  
12 election is held, the District of Columbia shall carry  
13 out the program described in paragraph (1) not  
14 later than 90 days prior to the date of the election.

15 “(c) PROHIBITING SAME-DAY REGISTRATION.—The  
16 District of Columbia may not permit an individual to vote  
17 in a District of Columbia election unless, not later than  
18 30 days prior to the date of the election, the individual  
19 is duly registered to vote in the election.

20 **“SEC. 324. BAN ON COLLECTION AND TRANSMISSION OF**  
21 **BALLOTS BY CERTAIN THIRD PARTIES.**

22 “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the  
23 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
24 Election Fraud Prevention Act’.

1       “(b) IN GENERAL.—The District of Columbia may  
2 not permit an individual to knowingly collect and transmit  
3 a ballot in a District of Columbia election that was mailed  
4 to another person, other than an individual described as  
5 follows:

6           “(1) An election official while engaged in offi-  
7 cial duties as authorized by law.

8           “(2) An employee of the United States Postal  
9 Service or other commercial common carrier engaged  
10 in similar activities while engaged in duties author-  
11 ized by law.

12           “(3) Any other individual who is allowed by law  
13 to collect and transmit United States mail, while en-  
14 gaged in official duties as authorized by law.

15           “(4) A family member, household member, or  
16 caregiver of the person to whom the ballot was  
17 mailed.

18       “(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section,  
19 with respect to a person to whom the ballot was mailed:

20           “(1) The term ‘caregiver’ means an individual  
21 who provides medical or health care assistance to  
22 such person in a residence, nursing care institution,  
23 hospice facility, assisted living center, assisted living  
24 facility, assisted living home, residential care institu-

1       tion, adult day health care facility, or adult foster  
2       care home.

3               “(2) The term ‘family member’ means an indi-  
4       vidual who is related to such person by blood, mar-  
5       riage, adoption or legal guardianship.

6               “(3) The term ‘household member’ means an  
7       individual who resides at the same residence as such  
8       person.

9       **“SEC. 325. TIMELY PROCESSING AND REPORTING OF RE-**  
10               **SULTS.**

11               “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
12       ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
13       Timely Reporting of Election Results Act’.

14               “(b) **TIME FOR PROCESSING BALLOTS AND REPORT-**  
15       **ING RESULTS.**—The District of Columbia shall begin  
16       processing ballots received by mail in a District of Colum-  
17       bia election as soon as such ballots are received and shall  
18       ensure that the results of such District of Columbia elec-  
19       tion are reported to the public not later than 10:00 am  
20       on the date following the date of the election, but in no  
21       case shall such ballots be tabulated or such results be re-  
22       ported earlier than the closing of polls on the date of the  
23       election.

24               “(c) **REQUIREMENT TO PUBLISH NUMBER OF**  
25       **VOTED BALLOTS ON ELECTION DAY.**—The District of

1 Columbia shall, as soon as practicable after the closing  
2 of polls on the date of a District of Columbia election,  
3 make available on a publicly accessible website the total  
4 number of voted ballots in the possession of election offi-  
5 cials in the District of Columbia as of the time of the clos-  
6 ing of polls on the date of such election, which shall in-  
7 clude, as of such time—

8           “(1) the number of voted ballots delivered by  
9           mail;

10           “(2) the number of ballots requested for such  
11           election by individuals who are entitled to vote by  
12           absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas  
13           Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20301 et  
14           seq.); and

15           “(3) the number of voted ballots for such elec-  
16           tion received from individuals who are entitled to  
17           vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed and  
18           Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C.  
19           20301 et seq.), including from individuals who,  
20           under such Act, voted by absentee ballot without re-  
21           questing such a ballot.

22           “(d) REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE BIPARTISAN  
23           ELECTION ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITY.—With respect to  
24           a District of Columbia election, District of Columbia elec-  
25           tion officials shall ensure that all activities are carried out

1 in a bipartisan manner, which shall include a requirement  
2 that, in the case of an election worker who enters a room  
3 which contains ballots, voting equipment, or non-voting  
4 equipment as any part of the election worker’s duties to  
5 carry out such election, the election worker is accompanied  
6 by an individual registered to vote with respect to a dif-  
7 ferent political party than such election worker, as deter-  
8 mined pursuant to the voting registration records of the  
9 District of Columbia.

10 **“SEC. 326. BAN ON NONCITIZEN VOTING.**

11 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
12 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
13 Citizen Voter Act’.

14 “(b) **BAN ON NONCITIZEN VOTING.**—No individual  
15 may vote in a District of Columbia election unless the indi-  
16 vidual is a citizen of the United States.

17 **“SEC. 327. REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO PROVI-**  
18 **SIONAL BALLOTS.**

19 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
20 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
21 Provisional Ballot Reform Act’.

22 “(b) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection  
23 (c), the District of Columbia shall permit an individual  
24 to cast a provisional ballot pursuant to section 302 if—

1           “(1) the individual declares that such individual  
2           is a registered voter in the District of Columbia and  
3           is eligible to vote in a District of Columbia election  
4           but the name of the individual does not appear on  
5           the official list of eligible voters for the polling place  
6           or an election official asserts that the individual is  
7           not eligible to vote; or

8           “(2) the individual declares that such individual  
9           is a registered voter in the District of Columbia and  
10          is eligible to vote in a District of Columbia election  
11          but does not provide an identification required under  
12          section 322, except that the individual’s provisional  
13          ballot shall not be counted in the election unless the  
14          individual provides such identification to the chief  
15          State election official of the District of Columbia not  
16          later than 5:00 pm on the second day which begins  
17          after the date of the election.

18          “(c) REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO COUNTING  
19          PROVISIONAL BALLOTS IN CERTAIN CASES.—If the name  
20          of an individual who is a registered voter in the District  
21          of Columbia and eligible to vote in a District of Columbia  
22          election appears on the official list of eligible voters for  
23          a polling place in the District of Columbia, such individual  
24          may cast a provisional ballot pursuant to section 302 for  
25          such election at a polling place other than the polling place

1 with respect to which the name of the individual appears  
2 on the official list of eligible voters, except that the individ-  
3 ual’s provisional ballot shall not be counted in the election  
4 unless the individual demonstrates pursuant to the re-  
5 quirements under section 302 that the individual is a reg-  
6 istered voter in the jurisdiction of the polling place at  
7 which the individual cast such ballot.

8 **“SEC. 328. MANDATORY POST-ELECTION AUDITS.**

9 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
10 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
11 Mandatory Post-Election Audits Act’.

12 “(b) **REQUIREMENT FOR POST-ELECTION AUDITS.**—  
13 Not later than 30 days after each District of Columbia  
14 election, the District of Columbia shall conduct and pub-  
15 lish an audit of the effectiveness and accuracy of the vot-  
16 ing systems used to carry out the election and the per-  
17 formance of the election officials who carried out the elec-  
18 tion, but in no case shall such audit be completed later  
19 than 2 business days before the deadline to file an election  
20 contest under the laws of the District of Columbia.

21 **“SEC. 329. PUBLIC OBSERVATION OF ELECTION PROCE-  
22 DURES.**

23 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
24 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
25 Public Observation of Election Procedures Act’.



1       “(b) DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF CAN-  
2 DIDATES, POLITICAL PARTIES, AND COMMITTEES AFFILI-  
3 ATED WITH BALLOT INITIATIVES.—

4           “(1) AUTHORITY TO OBSERVE PROCEDURES.—

5       An individual who is not a District of Columbia elec-  
6 tion official may observe election procedures carried  
7 out in a District of Columbia election, as described  
8 in paragraph (2), if the individual is designated to  
9 observe such procedures by a candidate in the elec-  
10 tion, a political party, or a committee affiliated with  
11 a ballot initiative or referendum in the election.

12           “(2) AUTHORITY AND PROCEDURES DE-  
13 SCRIBED.—The authority of an individual to observe  
14 election procedures pursuant to this subsection is as  
15 follows:

16           “(A) The individual may serve as a poll  
17 watcher to observe the casting and tabulation of  
18 ballots at a polling place on the date of the elec-  
19 tion or on any day prior to the date of the elec-  
20 tion on which ballots are cast at early voting  
21 sites, and may challenge the casting or tabula-  
22 tion of any such ballot.

23           “(B) The individual may serve as a poll  
24 watcher to observe the canvassing and proc-  
25 essing of absentee or other mail-in ballots, in-

1 including the procedures for verification of signed  
2 certificates of transmission under section  
3 330(c)(2).

4 “(C) The individual may observe the re-  
5 count of the results of the election at any loca-  
6 tion at which the recount is held, and may chal-  
7 lenge the tabulation of any ballot tabulated pur-  
8 suant to the recount.

9 “(3) PROVISION OF CREDENTIALS.—The chief  
10 State election official of the District of Columbia  
11 shall provide each individual who is authorized to ob-  
12 serve election procedures under paragraph (1) with  
13 appropriate credentials to enable the individual to  
14 observe such procedures.

15 “(4) EXCEPTION FOR CANDIDATES AND LAW  
16 ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—An individual may not  
17 serve as a poll watcher under subparagraph (A) or  
18 (B) of paragraph (2), and the chief State election of-  
19 ficial of the District of Columbia may not provide  
20 the individual with credentials to enable the indi-  
21 vidual to serve as a poll watcher under such sub-  
22 paragraph, if the individual is a candidate in the  
23 election or a law enforcement officer.

24 “(c) OTHER INDIVIDUALS.—

1           “(1) PETITION FOR OBSERVER CREDEN-  
2           TIALS.—In addition to the individuals described in  
3           subsection (b), any individual, including an indi-  
4           vidual representing or affiliated with a domestic or  
5           international organization, may petition the chief  
6           State election official of the District of Columbia to  
7           provide the individual with credentials to observe  
8           election procedures carried out in a District of Co-  
9           lumbia election, as described in subsection (b).

10           “(2) AUTHORITY DESCRIBED.—If the chief  
11           State election official provides an individual with  
12           credentials under paragraph (1), the individual shall  
13           have the same authority to observe election proce-  
14           dures carried out in the election as an individual de-  
15           scribed in subsection (b), except that the individual  
16           may not challenge the casting, tabulation, can-  
17           vassing, or processing of any ballot in the election.

18           “(3) EXCEPTION FOR CANDIDATES AND LAW  
19           ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—The chief State election  
20           official of the District of Columbia may not provide  
21           an individual who is a candidate in the election or  
22           a law enforcement officer with credentials to serve as  
23           a poll watcher, as described in subparagraph (A) or  
24           (B) of subsection (b)(2).

1       “(d) AUTHORITY OF MEMBERS OF PUBLIC TO OB-  
2 SERVE TESTING OF EQUIPMENT.—In addition to the au-  
3 thority of individuals to observe procedures under sub-  
4 sections (b) and (c), any member of the public may ob-  
5 serve the testing of election equipment by election officials  
6 prior to the date of the election.

7       “(e) PROHIBITING LIMITS ON ABILITY TO VIEW  
8 PROCEDURES.—An election official may not obstruct the  
9 ability of an individual who is authorized to observe an  
10 election procedure under this section to view the procedure  
11 as it is being carried out.

12       “(f) PROHIBITION AGAINST CERTAIN RESTRIC-  
13 TIONS.—An election official may not require that an indi-  
14 vidual who observes election procedures under this section  
15 stays more than 3 feet away from the procedure as it is  
16 being carried out.

17 **“SEC. 330. REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTING BY MAIL-IN BAL-**  
18 **LOT.**

19       “(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the  
20 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
21 Mail Balloting Reform Act’.

22       “(b) PROHIBITING TRANSMISSION OF UNSOLICITED  
23 BALLOTS.—The District of Columbia may not transmit  
24 an absentee or other mail-in ballot for a District of Colum-

1 bia election to any individual who does not request the  
2 District of Columbia to transmit the ballot.

3 “(c) SIGNATURE VERIFICATION.—

4 “(1) INCLUSION OF CERTIFICATE WITH BAL-  
5 LOT.—The District of Columbia shall include with  
6 each absentee or other mail-in ballot transmitted for  
7 a District of Columbia election a certificate of trans-  
8 mission which may be signed by the individual for  
9 whom the ballot is transmitted.

10 “(2) REQUIRING VERIFICATION FOR BALLOT TO  
11 BE COUNTED.—Except as provided in subsection (d),  
12 the District of Columbia may not accept an absentee  
13 or other mail-in ballot for a District of Columbia  
14 election unless—

15 “(A) the individual for whom the ballot  
16 was transmitted—

17 “(i) signs and dates the certificate of  
18 transmission included with the ballot under  
19 paragraph (1); and

20 “(ii) includes the signed certification  
21 with the ballot and the date on such cer-  
22 tification is accurate and in no case later  
23 than the date of the election; and

24 “(B) the individual’s signature on the bal-  
25 lot matches the signature of the individual on

1 the official list of registered voters in the Dis-  
2 trict of Columbia or other official record or doc-  
3 ument used by the District of Columbia to  
4 verify the signatures of voters.

5 “(d) NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE.—

6 “(1) NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE DIS-  
7 CREPANCY IN SIGNATURES.—If an individual sub-  
8 mits an absentee or other mail-in ballot for a Dis-  
9 trict of Columbia election and the appropriate Dis-  
10 trict of Columbia election official determines that a  
11 discrepancy exists between the signature on such  
12 ballot and the signature of such individual on the of-  
13 ficial list of registered voters in the District of Co-  
14 lumbia or other official record or document used by  
15 the District of Columbia to verify the signatures of  
16 voters, such election official, prior to making a final  
17 determination as to the validity of such ballot,  
18 shall—

19 “(A) make a good faith effort to imme-  
20 diately notify the individual by mail, telephone,  
21 or (if available) text message and electronic  
22 mail that—

23 “(i) a discrepancy exists between the  
24 signature on such ballot and the signature  
25 of the individual on the official list of reg-

1           istered voters in the District of Columbia  
2           or other official record or document used  
3           by the District of Columbia to verify the  
4           signatures of voters; and

5           “(ii) if such discrepancy is not cured  
6           prior to the expiration of the 48-hour pe-  
7           riod which begins on the date the official  
8           notifies the individual of the discrepancy,  
9           such ballot will not be counted; and

10          “(B) cure such discrepancy and count the  
11          ballot if, prior to the expiration of the 48-hour  
12          period described in subparagraph (A)(ii), the  
13          individual provides the official with information  
14          to cure such discrepancy, either in person, by  
15          telephone, or by electronic methods.

16          “(2) NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE MISS-  
17          ING SIGNATURE OR OTHER DEFECT.—If an indi-  
18          vidual submits an absentee or other mail-in ballot  
19          for a District of Columbia election without a signa-  
20          ture on the ballot or the certificate of transmission  
21          included with the ballot under subsection (c)(1) or  
22          submits an absentee ballot with another defect  
23          which, if left uncured, would cause the ballot to not  
24          be counted, the appropriate District of Columbia

1 election official, prior to making a final determina-  
2 tion as to the validity of the ballot, shall—

3 “(A) make a good faith effort to imme-  
4 diately notify the individual by mail, telephone,  
5 or (if available) text message and electronic  
6 mail that—

7 “(i) the ballot or certificate of trans-  
8 mission did not include a signature or has  
9 some other defect; and

10 “(ii) if the individual does not provide  
11 the missing signature or cure the other de-  
12 fect prior to the expiration of the 48-hour  
13 period which begins on the date the official  
14 notifies the individual that the ballot or  
15 certificate of transmission did not include  
16 a signature or has some other defect, such  
17 ballot will not be counted; and

18 “(B) count the ballot if, prior to the expi-  
19 ration of the 48-hour period described in sub-  
20 paragraph (A)(ii), the individual provides the  
21 official with the missing signature on a form  
22 proscribed by the District of Columbia or cures  
23 the other defect.

24 This paragraph does not apply with respect to a de-  
25 fect consisting of the failure of a ballot to meet the



1 applicable deadline for the acceptance of the ballot,  
2 as described in subsection (e).

3 “(e) DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTANCE.—

4 “(1) DEADLINE.—Except as provided in para-  
5 graph (2), the District of Columbia may not accept  
6 an absentee or other mail-in ballot for a District of  
7 Columbia election which is received by the appro-  
8 priate election official following the close of polls on  
9 Election Day.

10 “(2) EXCEPTION FOR ABSENT MILITARY AND  
11 OVERSEAS VOTERS.—Paragraph (1) does not apply  
12 to a ballot cast by an individual who is entitled to  
13 vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed and  
14 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C.  
15 20301 et seq.).

16 “(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
17 this subsection may be construed as prohibiting the  
18 District of Columbia from accepting an absentee or  
19 other mail-in ballot for a District of Columbia elec-  
20 tion that is delivered in person by the voter to an  
21 election official at an appropriate polling place or  
22 the District of Columbia Board of Elections if such  
23 ballot is received by the election official by the dead-  
24 line described in paragraph (1).

1 **“SEC. 331. REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO USE OF**  
2 **DROP BOXES.**

3 “(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the  
4 ‘American Confidence in Elections: District of Columbia  
5 Ballot Security Act’.

6 “(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—With respect to a District of  
7 Columbia election, the District of Columbia may not use  
8 a drop box to accept a voted absentee or other mail-in  
9 ballot for any such election unless—

10 “(1) any such drop box is located inside a Dis-  
11 trict of Columbia Government building or facility;

12 “(2) the District of Columbia provides for the  
13 security of any such drop box through 24-hour re-  
14 mote or electronic surveillance; and

15 “(3) the District of Columbia Board of Elec-  
16 tions collects any ballot deposited in any such drop  
17 box each day after 5:00 p.m. (local time) during the  
18 period of the election.

19 **“SEC. 332. SPECIAL RULE WITH RESPECT TO APPLICATION**  
20 **OF REQUIREMENTS TO FEDERAL ELECTIONS.**

21 “With respect to an election for Federal office in the  
22 District of Columbia, to the extent that there is any incon-  
23 sistency with the requirements of this subtitle and the re-  
24 quirements of subtitle A, the requirements of this subtitle  
25 shall apply.

1 **“SEC. 333. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELECTION DEFINED.**

2 “In this subtitle, the term ‘District of Columbia elec-  
3 tion’ means any election for public office in the District  
4 of Columbia, including an election for Federal office, and  
5 any ballot initiative or referendum.”.

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO EN-  
7 FORCEMENT.—Section 401 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 21111)  
8 is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting  
9 the following: “, and the requirements of subtitle C with  
10 respect to the District of Columbia.”.

11 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
12 of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the items  
13 relating to title III the following:

“Subtitle C—Requirements for Elections in District of Columbia

“Sec. 321. Statement of Congressional authority; findings.

“Sec. 322. Requirements for photo identification.

“Sec. 323. Requirements for voter registration.

“Sec. 324. Ban on collection and transmission of ballots by certain third  
parties.

“Sec. 325. Timely processing and reporting of results.

“Sec. 326. Ban on noncitizen voting.

“Sec. 327. Requirements with respect to provisional ballots.

“Sec. 328. Mandatory post-election audits.

“Sec. 329. Public observation of election procedures.

“Sec. 330. Requirements for voting by mail-in ballot.

“Sec. 331. Requirements with respect to use of drop boxes.

“Sec. 332. Special rule with respect to application of requirements to Fed-  
eral elections.

“Sec. 333. District of Columbia election defined.

14 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

15 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with  
16 respect to District of Columbia elections held on or after  
17 January 1, 2024. For purposes of this section, the term

1 “District of Columbia election” has the meaning given  
2 such term in section 333 of the Help America Vote Act  
3 of 2002, as added by section 2(a).

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