

Per Curiam

BRUNNER, OHIO SECRETARY OF STATE *v.* OHIO  
REPUBLICAN PARTY ET AL.

ON APPLICATION FOR STAY

No. 08A332. Decided October 17, 2008

The District Court entered a temporary restraining order (TRO) directing the Ohio secretary of state to update Ohio's Statewide Voter Registration Database to comply with §303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), 42 U. S. C. § 15483(a)(5)(B)(i). The Sixth Circuit denied the secretary's motion to vacate the TRO. The secretary then filed the instant application to stay the TRO.

*Held:* The application is granted, and the TRO is vacated. Respondents are not sufficiently likely to prevail on the question whether Congress has authorized the District Court to enforce HAVA §303 in an action brought by a private litigant to justify the issuance of a TRO. See *Gonzaga Univ. v. Doe*, 536 U. S. 273, 283.

Application granted and stay vacated.

PER CURIAM.

On October 9, 2008, the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio entered a temporary restraining order (TRO) directing Jennifer Brunner, the Ohio Secretary of State (Secretary), to update Ohio's Statewide Voter Registration Database to comply with §303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), 116 Stat. 1708, 42 U. S. C. § 15483(a)(5)(B)(i) (2000 ed., Supp. V).<sup>\*</sup> The United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit denied the Secretary's motion to vacate the TRO. The Secretary has filed an application to stay the TRO with JUSTICE STEVENS as Circuit Justice for the Sixth Circuit, and he has referred the matter

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<sup>\*</sup>Section 15483(a)(5)(B)(i) states, in relevant part:

"The chief State election official and the official responsible for the State motor vehicle authority of a State shall enter into an agreement to match information in the database of the statewide voter registration system with information in the database of the motor vehicle authority to the extent required to enable each such official to verify the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registration."

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to the Court. The Secretary argues both that the District Court had no jurisdiction to enter the TRO and that its ruling on the merits was erroneous. We express no opinion on the question whether HAVA is being properly implemented. Respondents, however, are not sufficiently likely to prevail on the question whether Congress has authorized the District Court to enforce § 303 in an action brought by a private litigant to justify the issuance of a TRO. See *Gonzaga Univ. v. Doe*, 536 U. S. 273, 283 (2002); *Alexander v. Sandoval*, 532 U. S. 275, 286 (2001). We therefore grant the application for a stay and vacate the TRO.

*It is so ordered.*