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Re: 2025 Assembly Bill 595

Noncitizen voting is extremely rare, as consistently confirmed by multiple studies. It is certainly not the problem that ongoing popular discussion about the issue suggests. And given this reality, on balance, the burden placed on individuals this bill would require to provide documentary proof of citizenship to exercise their fundamental right to vote is unacceptably high.

It is also true that implementing a procedure whereby the federal SAVE system is regularly consulted requires more safeguards than this bill creates. At a minimum, privacy related protections, like exceptions for records release under Wisconsin's public records law, should be included. And Wisconsin should have clarity on whether and how the federal government will use data run through the SAVE system before even considering uploading sensitive voter information to that system.

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