Resources:

AFL EAC DPOC Rule Petition; Comment portal

Comment Template: 2025 COMMENT: Template Comment Opposing AFL Petition

Email Template: 2025 EMAIL - Template EAC Comment Email Copy

Background and TPs: America First Legal Foundation Petition to EAC

Background

On July 16, 2025, America First Legal Foundation (AFL) submitted a <u>petition</u> for rulemaking to the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), requesting the EAC amend the federal voter registration form to require documentary proof of citizenship (DPOC) to register to vote in federal elections. The petition seeks to initiate a rulemaking process to amend 11 CFR 9428.4 and the federal voter registration form to require applicants to provide one of the following as proof of citizenship:

- U.S. Passport,
- State-issued Real ID-compliant driver's license indicating that the applicant is a citizen,
- An official military identification card that indicates the applicant is a US citizen, or
- Valid Federal or State government-issued photo identification if such identification indicates that
 the applicant is a US citizen or if such identification is otherwise accompanied by proof of US
 citizenship

The EAC is currently accepting comments on the petition. Organizations are encouraged to <u>submit a comment</u> in opposition to the proposed rule, and a template is provided in the resources section of this document. The comment period ends on October 20, 2025 at 11:59 PM ET. The EAC will not consider the petition's merits until after the comment period closes.

If implemented, this rule would impose an illegal and unnecessary voter registration requirement that would effectively disenfranchise millions of Americans by erecting severe barriers to registration through red tape. The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) defines the requirements for the content of the federal voter registration form, permitting the form to require "only such identifying information" that is "necessary" to determine eligibility to register.

AFL is a right-wing nonprofit law firm that claims it is "at the forefront of the battle for our nation." It lists "safeguard[ing] the integrity of our elections" as a key part of its <u>mission</u>. The organization was co-founded by White House Deputy Chief of Staff and Homeland Security Advisor Stephen Miller, a key architect behind some of the MAGA movement's most draconian immigration policies.

Talking Points

- The proposed rule is a voter suppression tactic that would effectively disenfranchise millions of Americans.
- Rather than protecting access to the ballot box, this proposed rule would make it harder for
 eligible Americans to register and vote, effectively silencing voices in communities that have
 historically faced voter suppression.

- This rule would only create unnecessary barriers that will burden eligible voters, particularly students, people of color, rural residents, lower-income and working-class individuals, and married women who have changed their last names.
- Federal law already prohibits noncitizens from voting in federal elections, and the myth of widespread noncitizen voting has been repeatedly debunked.