

Sender: Jonah, Public Citizen

Subject: Call now: Protect election officials in South Carolina

Preview: this is our opportunity to stop harassment and intimidation

Last year, one in five election administrators said they were considering leaving their job before the 2024 Election. A recent report showed that in some states more than half have resigned.

That's not surprising — recently, some people have made it their mission to harass and intimidate honest election officials to drive them out of their jobs:

- An elections director in Atlanta was continually threatened with violence and even death after claims the election was stolen in Georgia
- The Arizona Secretary of State's family faced threats, with calls trying to get her husband fired from his job
- An Oregon county clerk's office was vandalized with the message "VOTE DONT WORK. NEXT TIME BULLETS"

So in South Carolina, lawmakers are considering a bill (H4117) that would protect election officials and election workers by creating stronger punishments for interfering in elections.

But a lot of bills will be competing for attention once the next state legislative session starts, so we need to get started now in order to make protecting election officials a top priority.

[Call Rep. William Weston Newton, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. Tell him:](#)

[Support legislation to strengthen penalties on people who interfere in our elections. and schedule a hearing on this bill as soon as the legislature is back in session.](#)

Thanks for taking action,

Jonah
Public Citizen

Salsa page:

Protect election officials in South Carolina

We need to act now to build support for legislation in South Carolina that would strengthen penalties on people who harass or intimidate election officials — or do anything else that would interfere with an election.

Please call Rep. William Weston Newton, Chairman of the SC House Judiciary Committee, and tell him to prioritize the protection of all election officials by holding a hearing for House Bill H4117 during the next legislative session.

Call (843) 706-6111 to reach Rep. Newton. Choose your own words. Or you can send a letter (go to <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/member.php?code=1418749830> and click on “Send a message”).

Here's what you might say:

Hello, my name is _____ and I live in _____, South Carolina. I'm calling because I feel strongly about protecting election officials. They work hard, regardless of their own party preference, to make sure our elections run smoothly and all votes are counted.

The right to vote freely is a foundation of the US Constitution and what separates us from third-world dictatorships.

Threats against election officials are increasing around the country, and I want our state lawmakers to do what you can to protect them in South Carolina. When the legislature is back in session, please schedule a hearing on H4117 to strengthen penalties for people who threaten election officials or interfere with elections.

Thank you for your time.