

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4500

To prohibit agencies of the government from soliciting or entering into agreements with nongovernmental organizations to conduct voter registration or voter mobilization activities on the property or website of the agency or from using Federal funds to carry out activities directed under Executive Order 14019, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 6, 2023

Ms. TENNEY (for herself and Mr. ELLZEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Oversight and Accountability, Science, Space, and Technology, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit agencies of the government from soliciting or entering into agreements with nongovernmental organizations to conduct voter registration or voter mobilization activities on the property or website of the agency or from using Federal funds to carry out activities directed under Executive Order 14019, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Promoting Free and
3 Fair Elections Act of 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL AGENCY INVOLVEMENT IN VOTER REG-**
5 **ISTRATION ACTIVITIES.**

6 (a) CLARIFICATION OF FEDERAL AGENCY INVOLVE-
7 MENT IN VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES.—Executive
8 Order 14019 (86 Fed. Reg. 13623; relating to promoting
9 access to voting) shall have no force or effect to the extent
10 that it is inconsistent with section 7 of the National Voter
11 Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20506).

12 (b) PROHIBITING PROMOTION OF VOTER REGISTRA-
13 TION BY AGENCIES.—

14 (1) AGREEMENTS WITH NONGOVERNMENTAL
15 ORGANIZATIONS.—None of the funds made available
16 for the salaries and expenses of an agency may be
17 used to solicit or enter into an agreement with a
18 nongovernmental organization to conduct voter reg-
19 istration or voter mobilization activities, including
20 registering voters or providing any person with voter
21 registration materials, absentee or vote-by-mail bal-
22 lot applications, voting instructions, or candidate-re-
23 lated information, on the property or website of the
24 agency.

25 (2) ACTIVITIES UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER
26 14019.—

1 (A) DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION.—

2 (i) DELAY.—Except as provided in
3 clause (ii), none of the funds made avail-
4 able for the salaries and expenses of an
5 agency may be used to implement activities
6 directed under Executive Order 14019 (86
7 Fed. Reg. 13623) until—

8 (I) in the case of an agency that
9 is required to submit a report to the
10 appropriate congressional committees
11 under subparagraph (B)(i), 180 days
12 after the agency submits the report;
13 or

14 (II) in the case of an agency that
15 is required to submit a report to the
16 appropriate congressional committees
17 under subparagraph (B)(ii), the date
18 on which the agency submits the re-
19 port.

20 (ii) EXCEPTION.—Clause (i) shall not
21 apply to any activity described in section
22 7(c) of the National Voter Registration Act
23 of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20506(c)).

24 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
25 after the date of enactment of this Act, the

1 head of each agency shall submit to the appro-
2 priate congressional committees—

3 (i) a copy of the strategic plan of the
4 agency for promoting voter registration
5 and voter participation under section 3(b)
6 of Executive Order 14019 (86 Fed. Reg.
7 13623) that the agency developed or sub-
8 mitted to the Assistant to the President
9 for Domestic Policy; or

10 (ii) if the agency did not develop or
11 submit a plan described in clause (i) to the
12 Assistant to the President for Domestic
13 Policy, a certification signed by the head of
14 the agency that the agency did not develop
15 or submit such a plan.

16 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in
17 paragraph (2)(B), this section shall apply with re-
18 spect to fiscal year 2023 and each succeeding fiscal
19 year.

20 (c) ADDITIONAL REPORT ON VOTER REGISTRATION
21 AND MOBILIZATION.—Not later than 30 days after the
22 date of enactment of this Act, the head of each agency
23 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
24 a report describing the activities carried out by the agency

1 pursuant to sections 3 and 4 of Executive Order 14019
2 (86 Fed. Reg. 13623).

3 (d) PROHIBITING VOTER REGISTRATION AND MOBI-
4 LIZATION IN FEDERAL WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS.—Sec-
5 tion 443(b)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
6 U.S.C. 1087–53(b)(1)) is amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and”;

8 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as sub-
9 paragraph (E); and

10 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(D) does not involve registering or mobi-
13 lizing voters on or off the campus of the institu-
14 tion; and”.

15 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
17 meaning given the term in section 3502(1) of title
18 44, United States Code, except that for purposes of
19 subsection (c)(2) such term does not include an
20 independent regulatory agency as defined in section
21 3502(5) of title 44, United States Code.

22 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
23 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
24 mittees” means—

1 (A) the Committee on Rules and Adminis-
2 tration of the Senate;

3 (B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
4 Senate;

5 (C) the Committee on House Administra-
6 tion of the House of Representatives; and

7 (D) the Committee on the Judiciary of the
8 House of Representatives.

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