

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 2, 2026

The Honorable Todd Blanche
Acting Attorney General
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Acting Attorney General Blanche:

We write in strong opposition to the president's executive order that seeks to create lists of U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote in each state. We are gravely concerned that this order will disenfranchise the overwhelming majority of Arizonans who vote by mail.

This is a gross overreach of the federal government. The Constitution is clear: states have oversight of elections while Congress has the power to establish national standards for them.¹ The Constitution does not give the president unilateral authority over how voting is conducted.² In your role as the chief legal officer for the Executive Branch, we urge you to reject this unconstitutional executive order and protect sensitive voter information.

This Administration Has Repeatedly Attempted to Federalize Elections – Defying the Constitution

A year ago, the president issued an executive order aimed at requiring voters to provide proof of citizenship to register to vote. Arizona already requires documented proof of citizenship at the time of registration and voter ID at the polls, including birth certificates and Native American Tribal ID. Because voting processes are not dictated by executive decree, states and voting rights groups sued, and courts blocked the major elements of the order. Among the parts of the order the courts blocked was the directive to withhold federal election funds to states that would not make the required changes to their elections procedures to meet the White House's demands.³ Nevertheless, the order signed yesterday once again threatens to withhold federal funding from noncompliant states and localities.⁴ States run elections and understand the steps that must be taken to protect every eligible voter. The federal government does not.

The Executive Order Threatens to Disenfranchise Arizona Voters

In 1991, Republicans in Arizona established no-excuses early voting, in which any voter can request an early ballot and then cast it by mail. Voting by mail is incredibly popular in Arizona. In 2024, 85% of all Arizona votes were cast early, with most of those done by mail.⁵ Allowing any registered voter to cast their ballot without extra documentation or meeting a condition, such as absence on Election Day, has proven to be especially popular, reliable, and secure. Also, as Arizona continues to experience record temperatures, forcing voters to stand in long lines in the heat to cast a ballot will likely result in less registered voters going to the polls. This executive order is designed to make it harder for people to cast a ballot.

¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2026/03/31/trump-mail-voting-executive-order/>.

² Ibid.

³ <https://time.com/article/2026/04/01/trump-executive-order-mail-in-voting-states-rebuke-legal-challenge/>.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ <https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/politics/elections/2026/04/01/gop-dominated-arizona-elections-unchanged-mail-voting/89325031007/>.

A National Voter List Is Unprecedented and Unnecessary

Directing the Department of Homeland Security to work with the Social Security Administration to create a national voter list is unprecedented. A rigorous set of checks and balances exist in every state to ensure that only U.S. citizens can vote in federal and statewide elections. Election officials ensure that voters are U.S. citizens when they register to vote and regularly comb through their voter registration lists to make sure every person on the list is an eligible U.S. citizen.⁶ In fact, a study from the Heritage Foundation previously found just 23 cases of noncitizen voting in federal elections out of more than 1.2 billion ballots cast in the last 20 years.⁷ Requiring states to use a national list of voters is a surefire way to introduce errors and exclude eligible voters from exercising their constitutional right to vote.

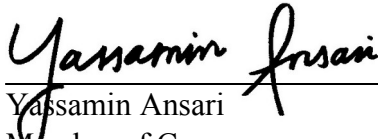
States like Arizona have the systems in place to ensure every eligible voter has the opportunity to make their voices heard on election day. The executive order the president signed yesterday does just the opposite.

We urge you to uphold the Constitution and reject this decree.

Sincerely,



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress

⁶ <https://votingrightslab.org/report/state-and-federal-law-ensures-only-citizens-can-vote-in-u-s-elections/>.

⁷ Ibid.