

PRESS RELEASE



SOUTH CAROLINA SENATE PASSES CITIZEN ONLY VOTING AMENDMENT

*"COVA" WOULD AMEND SOUTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE U.S.
CITIZENSHIP FOR ALL VOTERS IN ANY ELECTION IN SOUTH CAROLINA*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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CHARLESTON, SC - The South Carolina Senate passed the Citizens Only Voting Amendment (COVA) 40-3 in a bipartisan vote this afternoon. SJR1126 is now headed for the South Carolina House of Representatives.

"Today South Carolina took an important step forward in defending the value of citizenship," stated bill author Senator Josh Kimbrell. "We will never allow a non-citizen to vote in any election in our state, but we will make it easy for legal, law-abiding citizens of the United States and of our State to vote in all our elections. Citizenship matters, and our vote in the Senate this week proves that point."

According to a March 2024 Remington Research Group poll of likely General Election voters, 80% of South Carolina voters support Citizens Only Voting. The poll showed that only 12% of likely voters think citizens of foreign countries should be allowed to vote in South Carolina elections.

"This is a tremendous victory for the citizens of South Carolina," said Americans for Citizen Voting President Avi McCullah. "The South Carolina Senate came together, regardless of party, for the benefit of all citizens."

Foreign citizen voting exists in municipalities in states which have not passed a Citizen Only Voting Amendment. City councils in California, Illinois, Maryland, New York, Vermont, and Washington, DC have chosen to let non-citizens vote.

"We are hopeful that the bipartisan spirit of today's Senate vote carries over to the House," said McCullah. "Voters in both parties are paying attention and are looking for politicians who prioritize the citizens of South Carolina."

Americans for Citizen Voting is a nonpartisan grassroots organization dedicated to helping citizens pass Citizen Only Voting Amendments. In recent years the following states have passed COVA: Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Ohio, and North Dakota. COVA efforts are underway in Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Oklahoma, and Texas. COVA has passed the Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, and Wisconsin legislatures and will be voted on by the people this November.

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