

Securing Federal Elections and Restoring Confidence in the American Voting Process: One Day, One Vote, Hand Count Where Cast

Section 1. *Authorities.* By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the National Emergencies Act (Public Law 94-412, 09-14-1976) (NEA), War Power Act (Public Law 93-148), Federal Information Security Modernization Act (Public Law 113-283, 12-18-2014) (FISMA), Executive Order (EO) 13848 (09-12-2018), Article I, Section IV of the United States Constitution, Article III, Section II of the United States Constitution, 5 U.S.C. 6103 (b) and Defense Production Act, Title III, it is hereby ordered:

Sec. 2. *Background and Purpose.*

(a) A vote is the most critical form of free speech for each American. Over America's nearly 250-year history the right to vote has been hard fought to ensure all citizens can have their voice heard. The sanctity of the vote was codified in the 1965 Civil Rights Act. Anything less than an honest and secure vote that accurately represents the intent of the voter is a travesty, a violation of individual civil rights, and a disenfranchisement of the voter. If we do not have secure elections, we do not have a free country.

(b) There is extensive, well-documented, irrefutable, and alarming evidence that both domestic and international actors have interfered with American elections. This is a national security issue.

(c) The integrity and security of U.S. elections are at risk, as previously declared in Executive Order 13848, *Imposing Certain Sanctions in the Event of Foreign Interference in a United States Election*, enacted September 12, 2018, and extended throughout the Biden Administration. The former Director of National Intelligence, John Ratcliffe, submitted a report on January 7, 2021, which confirmed evidence of both system vulnerabilities and foreign state actor influence in the 2020 Presidential election.

(d) Foreign threats to the integrity and security of U.S. elections have only increased, ranging from foreign funding of candidates and campaign operations to infiltration through foreign-owned technology within United States electronic election systems. The electronic voting systems in use today have been proven in court to be vulnerable to remote manipulation. These threats pose an unusual and extraordinary risk to national security and all Americans. A cyber-attack to U.S. elections systems is the equivalent of a digital Pearl Harbor and is, in fact, a true act of war.

(e) Foreign intrusions are compounded by internal domestic vulnerabilities through actors and processes at every level, whether purposeful or through incompetence. Thousands of formal complaints and legal filings in the 2020, 2022, and 2024 elections address corrupted voter rolls; multi-state voting by individuals; voters denied the ability to vote when wrongfully marked as already having voted early; individuals sent multiple mail-in ballots; voters provided the wrong

ballot styles; internal vote flipping, systematically duplicated ballots; votes cast by deceased persons; and even Chinese-printed ballots.

(f) The promotion of “convenience” has invited fraud throughout the entire election ecosystem leaving the door wide open for our elections to be manipulated by malicious actors, both within and outside the U.S. In the name of convenience, the push for extended periods of early voting; extended periods of counting votes, mail-in ballots, and remote voting centers has shifted control of our elections away from the small, local, precinct level to larger centralized locations where vote manipulation is much easier to implement and hide. Another sad and subtle consequence of vote centralization is how it has been ripping apart of the civic fabric of our Republic. An individual vote is God-given, sacred, and bought through the blood, sweat, and tears of patriots through the generations of our Republic—it must be secured, preserved, and protected with the same intent and traditions of our Founders.

(g) We must securely place the power of the vote back into the hands of our citizens. Voting processes must be simple, transparent, and secure. Therefore, United States elections shall only involve lawful US citizens with: (i) Newly validated election registration documentation within one jurisdiction only; (ii) Proof of valid photo ID; (iii) Paper ballots; (iv) Ballots cast and counted, by hand, at the local precinct on election day only (with limited exceptions for certain valid absentee voting).

(h) National security and election assurance is a nonpartisan issue. The integrity of the electoral process is fundamental to national security and sound governance.

(i) This order ensures that the federal government protects the American people and the sanctity of their individual vote. There is no way to certify or test the security of the electronic components of current machines and devices used in United States federal elections before the 2026 United States election cycle beginning in only a few weeks.

(j) Therefore, to secure these and future United States federal elections, I hereby declare a continuing national emergency to deal with this threat and enact all authorities to direct the following action and parameters to ensure secure and honest federal elections going forward.

Sec. 3. Policy. It will be the policy of this administration that no electronic election infrastructure of any type will be permitted for United States federal elections until further notice.

(a) To be known as *One Day, One Vote, Hand Count Where Cast*, I am directing United States federal elections to return to a manual paper process whose objectives are to encourage local community participation and ensure accessibility, verifiability, transparency, security, and trust. Certified election results must be available on election day and announced at the same time across the nation. This policy directive will apply to United States federal elections only. We encourage, but do not direct, States to align their state and local elections process to this revised federal process.

(b) Accordingly, I hereby order:

Sec. 4. Federal Election Reforms.

(a) The Director of National Intelligence and Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security shall within 30 days of this order provide a detailed and comprehensive framework (Federal Election Reform Plan) which shall, at a minimum, address the following categories and processes: (i) Voter Eligibility, (ii) Voter Registration, (iii) Ballot Creation and Casting, (iv) Absentee Voting, (v) Ballot Custody Chain, (vi) Vote Counting, (vii) Certification, (viii) Transparency and Verifiability, (ix) Election Challenges, (x) Additional Security Measures, (xi) Remedies to Remove Emergency Status.

(b) The Federal Election Day (per 2 USC § 7) will be declared a national holiday, and Congressional coordination and funding will be leveraged to support this declaration.

Sec. 5. For Purposes of this Order:

(a) This order supersedes federal election law where applicable.

(b) The term “election infrastructure” means information and communications technology and systems used by or on behalf of the Federal Government or a State or local government in managing the election process, including voter registration databases, voting machines, voting tabulation equipment, and equipment for the secure transmission of election results.

(c) The term “United States Election” means any election for Federal Office held on, or after, the date of this order.

(d) The term “State” means the several States or any of the territories, dependencies, or possessions of the United States.

Sec. 6. General Provisions.

(a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) The authority of states to conduct their statewide elections, nor choice in their time, place and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives per Article I, Section 4, Clause I of the U.S. Constitution. This order pertains to the process and content of United States federal elections only.

(ii) The authority granted by law to the executive department, agency, or the head thereof.

(iii) The functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
February ____ , 2025