



April 10, 2024

Dear Secretary Ashcroft:

We recently learned about the exorbitant number of Missouri new voter registration inquiries processed by the Social Security Administration through the Help America Vote Verification (HAVV) system. The excessive number of inquiries is indicative of attempts to add fraudulent registrations to Missouri's voter rolls.

The Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) requires states to verify the information of *newly* registered voters for federal elections. According to the HAVA, each state must establish a computerized statewide voter registration list and verify new voter information with the Missouri Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA).

HAVA requires the states to verify the driver's license number against the state MVA database. The states are only to submit inquiries to the HAVV system in those situations where the potential registrant does not have a driver's license number. In those cases, the state submits the following information:

- Last four digits of the Social Security Number
- Name
- Date of Birth

According to the weekly transactions from the Social Security Administration (SSA) Weekly Data for Help America Vote Verification Transactions by State from the week ending of January 6 – March 23, 2024, Missouri has had more than **684,217** new registration inquiries with the HAVV system. Of those verification attempts, the HAVV system returned the following results:

- 48,447 have no match in the SSA system
- 34,837 have had their social security number match deceased people
- 52 have their social security match multiple people alive
- 3 have their social security match multiple deceased people
- 33 have their social security match mixed results meaning that a number has matched at least one person alive and one person deceased

While we understand that 684,217 inquiries may not equate to 684,217 newly registered voters, it is nonetheless an alarming number. Those 684,217 inquiries in only a three-month period far exceed the total number of inquiries in the entire year of 2020. In addition, are we to believe that 684,217 Missouri citizens are attempting to register without a driver's license? Are we to believe that a state with just over 4,000,000 registered voters has had 684,217 inquiries for new registrations in a three-month period? We know from the Missouri Canvassers Report in May 2022, that Missouri voter rolls are inflated by more than 20%. Clearly that number will now increase.

The Freedom Principle MO is very concerned about the addition of potentially fraudulent voter registrations. The fact that over 48,400 had no matches to the SSA and 34,000 of the HAVV inquiries found matches to deceased people indicates that fraudulent registrations are being attempted. Given that systemic fraud is clearly being attempted, how can we be assured that matches returned by the HAVV system represent legitimate inquiries rather than fraudulent ones that proved successful? Additionally, we are concerned that many of these potential new voters are not Missouri citizens.

We wonder if these numbers are being inflated by the effort of out-of-state dark money groups collecting signatures for pro-abortion ballot measures. We have also seen news stories about St. Louis City proposing to register homeless people to vote as part of their proposed Homeless Bill of Rights legislation.

We are calling on the Secretary of State's office to launch an immediate investigation to verify if these are legitimate inquiries connected to actual Missouri citizens or if there is an ongoing effort to fraudulently register voters, inflate our voter rolls, and manipulate the 2024 elections.

We are specifically seeking to understand the following:

- Since Missouri is no longer enrolled with ERIC, what type of voter verification system is Missouri using to verify voter registrations?
- If you are using another third-party system, what system are you using and where is this system housed?
- Is this information being shared with County Clerk Offices?
- Missouri statutes require people to register to vote in person. Do we require these people to show up in person to register to vote?
- Are the people registering to vote providing the required documentation to register to vote?
- When people attempting to register are found to have a duplicate name tied to the social security number is the Secretary of State's office investigating?
- Does the Secretary of State have a team of dedicated investigators or does it use existing staff members?

The deadline for petition signatures is approaching and we know the pages are then submitted to the local County Clerk's office for verification. We are asking the Secretary of State's office to take any additional steps to verify the accuracy of these signatures.

We will be in Jefferson City on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> for our April Legislative Day and we would like to set up a meeting with you in your Capital office to discuss this important and immediate issue. I will be calling to set up the time and appreciate you taking the meeting.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Byron Keelin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Byron Keelin,  
President, Freedom Principle MO