

Secretary

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528



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June 23, 2025

The Honorable Susan Beals
Virginia Commissioner, Department of Elections
Washington Building 1100 Bank Street, First Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Commissioner Susan Beals,

I am writing to inform you about the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) progress in optimizing the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program, specifically, DHS's progress in verifying U.S. citizenship for voter eligibility purposes in support of Executive Order 14248, Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections.

Over the past several months we have made three key changes to the SAVE program that will allow you to use it in a more efficient manner in response to concerns raised by states.

First, we have eliminated charges for state, local, tribal, and territorial government agencies to use the SAVE program.

Second, we have updated the program to allow users to create queries in bulk rather than individually. To facilitate this process, the SAVE program provides a template with standardized data fields. Required information for bulk case entries include first name, last name, date of birth, and one or more of the following enumerators: Social Security Number, Alien Number (A-Number/ U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) number), and/or Citizenship or Naturalization Certificate Number. This significant change allows states to upload their voter rolls in bulk, streamlining the verification of U.S. citizenship for individuals registered or registering to vote in their state.

Finally, we recently launched an enhancement that allows the SAVE program users to create cases using a Social Security Number as the applicant enumerator. This enhancement, made possible through a partnership with the Social Security Administration, enables the SAVE program to verify citizenship or immigration status using Social Security Numbers, eliminating the need for a DHS identifying number, which most state and local agencies do not collect. I recognize many states collect only the last four digits of a Social Security Number on their voter registration forms; and DHS and the Social Security Administration are currently working on allowing the SAVE program searches using just the last four digits of a Social Security Number. This new functionality will be communicated in the coming weeks.

I encourage all state and local governments to register for the SAVE program to ensure lawful voter eligibility verification. States interested in participating can visit [Prospective User Agencies | USCIS](#) to find more information and initiate the registration process.

USCIS staff would be delighted to speak with you about the recent changes to the SAVE program. Please contact Michael Mayhew, Deputy Associate Director of the USCIS Immigration Records and Identity Services Directorate, directly at Michael.X.Mayhew@uscis.dhs.gov to arrange a meeting to discuss the updates that we are making to the SAVE program and to learn how unregistered states can register to use this optimized version of the SAVE program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristi Noem", is written over a horizontal line.

Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security