

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2026 BRINGS NEW DEADLINES FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS

CINCINNATI, OH – Community leaders are urging Greater Cincinnati residents to take note of important changes to Ohio's election laws following the passage of Senate Bill 293 (SB 293), which was signed into law in December 2025 and took effect on March 20, 2026.

The new law introduces several significant updates to how elections are conducted in Ohio, including changes to absentee voting, voter registration processes, and ballot handling procedures.

Among the most notable changes, **absentee ballots must now be received by the close of polls on Election Day to be counted, eliminating the previous grace period for ballots arriving after Election Day.**

Additionally, the law includes enhanced voter list maintenance requirements and updated procedures for provisional ballots, which may impact how ballots are processed.

Visit CincyVotes.org to view or download a one-page explainer. In addition, 60- and 30-second PSA videos (in 16:9 and 9:16) are available for viewing and download.

The Greater Cincinnati Voter Collaborative is a nonpartisan coalition of area civic organizations working together to improve voter education and participation.

When it comes to voting by mail, early is the new ON TIME.



**You count.
Make sure your vote counts, too.**