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BREAKING NEWS RELEASE

ERIC (Electronic Registration Info Center) Member States Carrying Heavier Voter Roll Bloat than Non-Member States

(Denver, Colorado, February 28, 2023) Data analysis of voter registrations in just 27 U.S. states reveal nearly 700,000 duplicate registrations. The 2002 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires all states to keep secure and accurate voter rolls. ERIC (Electronic Registration Info Center) member states had approximately 50% higher rate per capita of duplicate registrants. This massive duplication should prompt great concern, as it creates a pool of potentially illegal votes.

WHO KEEPS DROPPING THE BALL ON CLEAN VOTER ROLLS?

What would you say if someone showed you absolute proof voter registrations in 27 U.S. states reveal nearly 700,000 duplicate registrations? What are the odds that hundreds of thousands of individuals would be registered to vote in more than one state? Do you think this might impact election outcomes at the local, state, and federal levels?

Unfortunately, it's not an exaggeration or a conspiracy theory. **It's true.**

The data suggests that either systems or people are failing. The failure to maintain clean voter rolls is currently either the fault of a system failure by ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center) or state election officials (or both).

THE BACKGROUND

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 requires all states to maintain secure and accurate voter rolls. In 2005, one state went above and beyond in their execution of this arduous task by creating Kansas Crosscheck, an interstate voter registration cross-check communications plan to eliminate duplicate voters across

state lines, either from moves between states or intentional registrations in multiple states. Years later, the American Civil Liberties Union, (ACLU) sued Kansas Crosscheck over a breach of personal identifying information (PII), and ERIC was then proposed as a replacement solution for Kansas Crosscheck.

According to ERIC's website at <http://ericstates.org>, "The Electronic Registration Information Center is a non-profit organization with the sole mission of assisting states to improve the accuracy of their voter rolls and increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens. ERIC is governed and managed by states who choose to join and was formed in 2012 with help from The Pew Charitable Trusts."

Member states pay a fee to belong to ERIC, and in exchange, ERIC alleges to report duplications and other irregularities to each state, to help states uphold their federally mandated obligation to maintain clean voter rolls.

However, through the work of state and local canvassing by grassroots volunteers, it has become clear that ERIC is not achieving the objective it promises to member states.

THE DATA

Jeffrey "Data Jeff" Young, Certified Analytics Professional (CAP®) with a master's degree in business analytics, assessed the permanent address changes in the National Change of Address database, (NCOA) against 27 states' voter registration databases over a four-month time period prior to the 2022 General Election. It is important to note that only permanent address changes were included in Young's findings, as temporary changes of address are common for any individual who intends to return to their old address within six months or less.

The NCOA data is owned by the United States Post Office which includes approximately 160 million permanent change-of-address records constructed from names and addresses of individuals, families, and businesses who have filed a change-of-address with the Postal Service. Using the NCOA database, Young flagged all the voters who filed permanent mailing address changes during a four-month period between September 2022 and December 2022, which uncovered a staggering number of duplications.

Specifically, 693,686 duplications were discovered among voter registrations across 27 states analyzed, which represents only approximately 28% of the total *possible combinations* of the states.

An in-depth comparison of ERIC member states and non-member states showed that the ERIC member states had approximately 50% higher rate per capita of duplicate registrants. In other words, states that pay to belong to the ERIC system (which promises to help state election officials maintain clean voter rolls by cross-checking duplicate registrations) have more duplications than states that are not ERIC members. Furthermore, the data indicates that a person who relocates from one ERIC member state to another is about three times more likely to become a duplicate registrant, as compared to an individual who moves from one non-member state to another.

THE IMPACT

Furthermore, the data indicates that a person who relocates from one ERIC member state to another ERIC member state is about three times more likely to become a duplicate registrant, as compared to an individual who moves from one non-member state to another non-member state

- Such extensive duplications suggest that states are failing to keep and maintain accurate voter rolls, which leads to HAVA violations that could potentially result in federal offenses up to and including felony charges for election officials, including Secretaries of State. This massive duplication should prompt great concern, as it creates a pool of potentially illegal votes by opening avenues for duplicate votes, phantom votes, stolen votes, etc. With nearly 700,000 duplicate registrations discovered across just 27 states, it begs several questions: with 72% remaining to assess, what are the total duplicate numbers across all 50 states?
- Whose responsibility is it to ensure the voter rolls are accurate? Is ERIC failing to do the specific task that member states (and taxpayer dollars) have hired it to do?
- When and how will the Election Assistance Commission, (EAC) and/or federal government branches enforce the HAVA requirements for accurate voter rolls?

THE SOLUTION

First and most immediately, member states and the federal government need to launch an investigation into ERIC. Secondly, concerned citizens can lobby state officials to reclaim control from ERIC. Alabama and Louisiana have just cut ties with ERIC, in order to return to a decentralized system where states work directly with

each other to eliminate duplicate and dual registrations. Citizens should not be fooled into thinking another centralized replacement for ERIC will work; even with the best of intentions, this would only lead to a corrupt and inaccurate system.

To learn more about what is going on in your own state and get connected with other election integrity grassroots efforts in your area, sign up to Get Involved at <http://causeofamerica.org>. *Cause of America (CoA) is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization focused on election integrity. CoA facilitates grassroots citizen action to conduct, control, manage, monitor, and verify their elections on local, state, and national levels.*

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