From: Gookin, Eric
To: Bennett, Brittany (CRT)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Iowa VRL
Date: Thursday, December 11, 2025 10:55:00 AM
Attachments: image001.png

Ms. Bennett,

Thank you for providing the MOU for us to review.

During our call, you and your colleague told me this was the final version and USDOJ did not intend to negotiate any of it. However, our understanding is that at least one state's Secretary of State is meeting with AAG Dhillon next week to discuss potential conflicts with federal statutes that would present themselves should states choose to opt-in to signing.
As for this office, as we wait on the outcome of that meeting and regardless of whether any updates are made as a result, we wanted to be proactive and assure you that we continue to work to ensure that Iowa has the cleanest voter lists possible.

For example, we sued the Biden administration last year, after they refused our request to provide citizenship information for a relatively small number of registrants that we had identified as potential noncitizens, prior to the 2024 General Election.

That case led to Iowa and other states winning a consent decree against DHS that ensures that state election officials will have free access to the SAVE program, including the ability to search by a voter's SSN and upload bulk data for comparison, for at least the next 20 years (3:24-cv-509-TKW-HTC).

This was an important victory in ensuring that all states will be able to utilize SAVE for voter citizenship verification over the long term. We were one of the states that tested the new SAVE enhancements that are being driven by President Trump's initiatives to clear noncitizens from voter rolls, including, critically, the addition of death data from SSA.

We expect to do our first "live" voter list comparison before the end of the year. Once that comparison is complete, we will be sending notices to those Iowa registrants that SAVE indicates are noncitizens to commence the voter registration cancelation process.

We hope this information better enlightens you to our commitment to clean our voter lists and to working with our federal partners.

Best,
Eric

From: Bennett, Brittany (CRT) <Brittany.Bennett@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 9:23 AM
To: Gookin, Eric <Eric.Gookin@sos.iowa.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Iowa VRL

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Mr. Gookin,

Thank you for returning my call this morning. Please see the attached MOU as discussed. It's imperative we hear back from you as soon as possible and no later than 7 days.

Thank you.

Brittany E. Bennett
Trial Attorney
Civil Rights Division, Voting Section
U.S. Department of Justice
150 M Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 704-5430
brittany.bennett@usdoj.gov