



## E — Early Voting Shortened / Election Day Uniformity

Election Day uniformity reinforces transparency, accountability, and public trust. When voting and ballot counting extend over long periods, results are delayed and confidence erodes.

### Identified Weaknesses

Extended early voting and post-Election Day ballot receipt deadlines fracture the shared civic experience of Election Day and increase opportunities for administrative error, fraud risk, and dispute.

### Examples

- Arizona (2016): More than 70,000 early ballots were cast for presidential candidate, Marco Rubio, who withdrew from the race before Election Day, leaving voters unable to revise their choices and illustrating how extended early voting can lock in outdated information and effectively nullify voter intent.<sup>1</sup>
- Illinois (2025): A pending Supreme Court case challenges state law allowing ballots received up to 14 days after Election Day to be counted, raising concerns about federal election timelines.<sup>2</sup>
- Mississippi (2025): A similar case challenges a five-day post-Election Day ballot receipt window, questioning whether states may extend the counting period beyond Election Day.<sup>3</sup>

### What C.L.E.A.N. Proposes

- ✓ Limit early voting to no more than three days immediately preceding Election Day.
- ✓ Require all ballots to be cast and received by Election Day.

### Key Takeaways

Short, uniform voting periods strengthen confidence, reduce disputes, and preserve the integrity of Election Day.

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<sup>1</sup>Spakovsky, H. (2017). [Early Voting Disadvantages Seem to Outweigh Benefits](#). *The Heritage Foundation*.

<sup>2</sup>Judicial Watch. (2025). [Supreme Court Will Hear Judicial Watch Case on Election Law Challenge](#); SCOTUS Blog. (2025). [Justices seem willing to allow candidate to challenge elections law on mail-in ballots](#). The complete docket for *Bost v. Illinois Board of Elections* is available [here](#).

<sup>3</sup>[Republican Natl Cmte v. Wetzel, No. 24-60395 \(5th Cir. 2025\)](#).