



L — Limit Mail-In Ballots

Mail-in voting operates outside the controlled environment of in-person polling places. When used too broadly, it weakens chain-of-custody safeguards and increases administrative complexity.

Identified Weaknesses

Mass ballot distribution relies heavily on accurate voter rolls and secure handling. Outdated records, third-party involvement, and limited tracking heighten the risk of error and abuse.

Examples

- Nevada (2020): More than 90,000 mail ballots were returned as undeliverable during the primary election.¹
- New Jersey (2020): Criminal charges followed a local election in Paterson after hundreds of mail ballots were improperly bundled and handled.²
- California (2020): Reports documented ballots being mailed to deceased voters or individuals no longer residing at their registered addresses.³

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

- Limit mail-in voting to voters covered under federal absentee protections for military and overseas citizens (UOCAVA/MOVE Act), including active-duty service members, Merchant Marine members, their eligible family members, and U.S. citizens residing abroad.⁴

Key Takeaways

Restricting mail-in voting preserves access for those with legitimate barriers while protecting ballot security and public confidence.

¹Halon, Y. (2020). [Ex-Nevada AG describes ballots 'piled up in apartments and trash cans and in hallways' due to mail-in voting](#). *Fox News*.

²Dienst, J. (2020). [Hundreds of Mail-In Votes Already Set Aside Due to Voter Fraud Claims in Paterson](#). *NBC New York*.

³KCAL News. (2020). [Duplicates And Dead People: Hundreds Of Thousands Of Questionable Ballots Sent Out To LA County Voters](#). *CBS News*.

⁴See the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act ([52 U.S.C. 20301](#) et seq.; 1986.); Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment "MOVE" Act ([Pub. L. No. 111-84, §§ 577-83\(a\)](#); 2009).