



Stop the SAVE Act



Photo by [Angela Loria](#) on [Unsplash](#)

The story goes that Augusto Pinochet, the brutal dictator who ruled Chile for nearly three decades, once asked the president of Bolivia, a landlocked country, "Why do you have a Secretary of the Navy?"

To which Bolivia's president replied, "Why not? You have a Minister of Justice."

Our situation is not Chile's and this story may only be a story. Still, it resonates today, as our country drifts daily further into authoritarianism.

To stop the Trump administration, we will need to run a marathon and build a network of resistance, with each person focusing on their strong suits and passions. We can do it. In fact, we must.

Stop the SAVE Act – it saves no one

The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act is a cruelly named act which would in fact disenfranchise millions of Americans without safeguarding anyone, with over-the-top requirements for proving citizenship and one's legal

name. It would disproportionately affect [naturalized citizens and married women who have changed their names](#). At a time where every vote counts, this is a blow to our democracy.

The SAVE Act has passed the House and now must clear the Senate. Call our state's Senators, Alex Padilla and Adam Schiff, to encourage them to filibuster this bill to its grave.

Find their contact information [here](#).

Provide your name and ZIP Code when leaving messages. The Fresno numbers are usually the least busy and seldom have full voicemail queues.

Then get the [5 Calls](#) app to make your voice heard on other threats facing our country.

Protest DOGE

When Elon Musk posed with a chainsaw at the Conservative Political Action Conference in Maryland this February, it was no joke.

That is exactly what he and DOGE have been doing: taking a chainsaw to our federal government, threatening veterans' benefits, our national parks, medical research, weather forecasting and more . . . the list is too long to document here.

Protest at a [Tesla Takedown](#). You'll leave happier than when you arrived, energized by the constant stream of drivers who offer their support with a thumbs up, a friendly smile or a honk.

Read this advice from an activist

On April 5, more than 3,000 people attended the Mountain View Hands Off! protest. The event was made possible thanks to the hard work of [IdaRose Sylvester](#), pictured here leading marchers, and her chapter of the activist group, Together We Will.



IdaRose does most of her organizing through the group's newsletter and [Facebook page](#), reaching more than 3,500 people. When she's organizing, she keeps one question in mind: "What would it be like for someone attending?"

She knows protests put pressure on politicians and build community. Seeing familiar faces, she says, keeps people motivated, reminding them of their impact.

Her advice to activists: Find something you are passionate about, whether it be protesting or calling your representative. "There is no right form of activism," she says.

Events continue to be planned across Santa Clara County. To find one, visit our [Action Center](#) or our county's [Democratic Volunteer Center](#).

All those door knocks made a difference

It was a nailbiter, but the two candidates we endorsed to represent San José's District 3 on the City Council both made it to the June run-off.

Gabby Chavez-Lopez easily gained first place with 30% of the vote in last month's primary. Anthony Tordillos's road to the runoff was more dramatic. He

captured second place with 22% of the vote - a mere 6 votes ahead of the candidate who finished third.

The race for second was so close, the Registrar of Voters was required to conduct a manual recount to confirm the result, proving yet again that every vote counts, which means that every door knock, every phone call, and every postcard sent to a voter also counts.

Election day is Tuesday, June 24. The mailing of ballots won't start till May 27, giving voters just a few short weeks to cast their ballots.

Turnout in the April primary was low, with only 19% of eligible voters voting. Let's increase those numbers in the runoff. If you know someone who lives in District 3, encourage them to vote.

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