



## News From *State Representative Darren Bailey*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 24, 2020

Contact: Rep. Darren Bailey 618-665-4109  
bailey@ilhousegop.org

### **Rep. Bailey Demands Accountability and Action to Preserve Integrity of Elections in Illinois: Executive Committee Hearing Scheduled for Jan. 30**

LOUISVILLE...State Representative Darren Bailey (R-Xenia) joined the call for immediate action to investigate the recent revelation of a “programming error” that led to well over 500 non-citizens being registered to vote over a 17-month period. On December 18, 2019, the Illinois Secretary of State’s office notified the State Board of Elections that a “programming error” had occurred but the letter was not made public until last week.

“We need something done right away! This isn’t something that can wait for a task force to be created, multiple hearings held around the state for months and then have some report submitted to maybe pass some legislation next year,” demanded Rep. Bailey. “We have absentee and early voting starting in just a few days and this cannot wait! I am encouraged that a hearing is scheduled for this coming Thursday at the Capitol.”

Upon learning of the error, Assistant Republican Leader Tim Butler and other House Republicans who serve on the House Executive Committee sent a letter to Speaker Mike Madigan asking for an immediate hearing of the House Executive Committee to investigate the situation and hear testimony directly from those involved with the improper implementation of Illinois’ automatic voter registration law.

“This is an egregious mistake,” said Butler. “The right to vote is our most important right as Americans and protecting the integrity of the voting process is vital to preserving its value and credibility, particularly with the threat of foreign meddling that exists today. Considering that the non-citizens who were improperly registered did the right thing by self-identifying themselves, we need clear answers about how this failure happened and definitive solutions to prevent it from ever happening again.”

At the request of House Republicans, the Illinois House Executive Committee has posted the issue of automatic voter registration for a public hearing that will take place at the State Capitol in Springfield on Thursday, January 30 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 118 of the Capitol.

###