

Black Voters Matter Fund • Brady PAC • Collective PAC

End Citizens United // Let America Vote

Latino Victory Fund • League of Conservation Voters

January 13, 2022

Dear Senator:

We, the undersigned organizations, represent a diverse set of issues critically important to our country, but all of our collective priorities rely on a functioning democracy and the guarantee of free and fair elections. We are writing jointly today because we believe the very fate and future of our Republic hangs in the balance. The freedom to vote and to have your vote counted, as well as our democratic system of elections, is under attack. The Senate must do whatever it takes to update its procedures to pass the vitally important federal legislation it is currently considering to protect against these attacks.

Over the last year, our democracy has been pushed to the brink. There have been widespread attacks on the freedom to vote; threats to nonpartisan election workers; extreme racial and partisan gerrymandering; and dark money groups continue to spread the Big Lie. We just commemorated the one-year anniversary of the insurrection at our Capitol. January 6th made clear just how fragile our democracy is and how close we are to losing it if Congress does not act now. We cannot wait until it is too late.

At this existential moment for our democracy, **our organizations have made the decision to only consider endorsements for senators in their next election who take all necessary measures to pass the key voting rights and pro-democracy reform provisions currently included in the Freedom to Vote Act and John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, including reforming Senate Rules if necessary.** Vocally supporting the right to vote without being fully committed to passing critical legislation into law will be insufficient to receive the endorsement of our organizations. While each of our organizations takes several different factors into consideration when endorsing candidates, commitment to passing these voting rights bills will be a threshold factor.

Whether or not our country makes it through this dark period in our democracy depends on whether Congress passes the Freedom to Vote Act and John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act in the coming days. Later this month, we will be celebrating the life of Martin Luther King Jr. – there is not a more fitting way to honor the legacy of a man who devoted his life to working toward a more perfect union than to pass these bills.

Inaction is not an option. We strongly urge you to do whatever it takes to pass these bills into law.

Signed,

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