

2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES: COMMON CAUSE NEW YORK

Common Cause New York has been leading the fight to make our democracy and government work for all New Yorkers. Our 60,000+ grassroots members and activists are tireless advocates for voting rights, ethics reform and fair redistricting from Buffalo to Bay Ridge. Our legislative priorities reflect our vision for a more equitable and vibrant democracy in New York.

EXPAND VOTING RIGHTS & INVEST IN OUR ELECTIONS

- **Allow New Yorkers to provide water and snacks to voters at poll sites or while in line to vote.** (S616 Myrie/A1346 Simon)
- **Guarantees the use of voter verifiable paper ballots in elections.** (A5934B Cunningham/S6169B Cleare)
- **New York should join the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC),** a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization of states that share voter roll data to maintain more accurate voter rolls. (S6173B Skoufis/A7052C Silitti)
- **Remind voters they can now vote by mail.**
- **Move New York City's municipal elections to even years.** New York's local elections suffer from low turnout during a very off year election. Moving local elections to an even year, either during congressional or presidential elections, would increase voter participation.
- **New York is one of the few states that does not provide consistent nor significant state funding for election administration.** An annual dedicated budget line should be created to support local Boards of Elections efforts to smoothly hold elections.
- **Uniform procedures for voting while in jail.** Citizens who are in jail have the right to vote, but are often prevented from voting because the local jurisdiction in control of the jail has no procedures in place.

PROTECT OUR DEMOCRACY

- **New York must move quickly to repeal our Article V Resolutions.** Article V resolutions are aged legislative resolutions calling for a federal constitutional

convention. These old resolutions do not by their terms have any expiration date. Extremist entities seeking to call a constitutional convention to hobble the federal government argue that these old resolutions should be counted and include New York in the total count of states calling for a constitutional convention bringing the total above the needed 34 states. (B1460 Krueger/K797 Zebrowski)

- **Increase candidate disclosures.** Voters deserve to have elected officials who tell the truth. Candidates will have to disclose their military service, recent employment history, education and confirm their in-district residence. (A5358B Sillitti/S5884B Liu)
- **Protect against Deepfake campaign ads.** Voters are entitled to honest campaign ads and materials. Placing clear, enforceable disclosures on campaign materials with altered images, video or audio warns voters to be wary of the altered material, protecting voters and candidates. (S8631 Gonzalez)
- **Allow for nonpartisan poll monitors during in-person voting.** Nonpartisan monitors will assist voters and help problem solve. This will increase confidence in the integrity and transparency of our elections. (A2408A Paulin/S5193A Skoufis)
- **Improve FOIL process.** The general public has a right to timely responses from state agencies in regards to FOIL requests. This bill would require reasonable response timelines. (A8586 Raga/S8128 Skoufis)
- **Board of Elections reform.** Professionalizing and reducing partisanship in election administration is an essential component to improving our elections.
- **Reduce legislators outside income.** The State Legislature must enact a ban on income earned through certain professions and a cap of up to 15% on certain permissible outside income from select professions.

STRENGTHEN CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS

- **Reduce the corrosiveness of money in politics and enhance public trust in our government by passing:**
 - Prohibit campaign contributions from individuals or organizations while bidding on state contracts. (A2408-A Paulin/S5193-A Skoufis)