

## Common Cause Urges "Yes" Vote to Begin Debate on the Freedom to Vote Act, S. 2747; Will "Score" Vote in Our Next Democracy Scorecard

October 19, 2021

Dear Senator:

All Americans, regardless of their age, zip code, or skin color, deserve to have their voices heard and votes counted. The American people have demanded bold action from Congress to protect the freedom to vote, get big and secret money out of politics, end gerrymandering, and prevent election sabotage. That is why we strongly support the Freedom to Vote Act. On behalf of Common Cause's more than 1.5 million members, we urge you to vote to begin debate on the Freedom to Vote Act when the Senate considers this legislation later this week. **Common Cause will key-vote this legislation in our next ["Democracy Scorecard,"](#)** which we share with our supporters in each state as well as with the press.

Self-interested politicians in numerous states are trying to create significant barriers to voting for certain Americans, especially Black and Brown voters. Using the former president's Big Lie about a stolen election as a pretext for voter suppression—the same Big Lie that led to a violent insurrection at our Capitol to overturn a free and fair election—many Republican state legislatures are trying to reverse progress. At least [19 states have already passed 33 restrictive voting bills](#) this year, and many others are trying to do so.

Following this summer's Supreme Court decision in *Brnovich v. DNC*, which gave states even more of a green light to pass voter suppression efforts, national standards are needed now more than ever. Together with the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, the Freedom to Vote Act is a remedy we need and that Americans are demanding. It would set uniform guidelines so that all Americans, regardless of their age, race, or zip code, can have the freedom to vote.

The Freedom to Vote Act is a bold bill that would give voters more choices in how they cast their ballot. It would ensure at least two weeks of early voting, create same-day and automatic voter registration, and stop nearly all of the state voter suppression efforts currently being considered.

Although the voting provisions have attracted significant attention, those are just one pillar of the bill. The Freedom to Vote Act also contains bold reforms to stop gerrymandering, get big and secret money out of politics, and prevent election sabotage. They are essential to solve the scope of the problem--systems that silence voters and leave them unrepresented in the halls of power.

The Freedom to Vote Act is popular with Republican, independent, and Democratic voters. In fact, many components of the bill have already [passed in red, blue, and purple states](#), often with strong bipartisan support, and recent polling shows that it is popular with conservative voters. Because this bill is popular, corporate special interests and dark money voter suppression groups lie, deceive, and distort to try to erode its support. Opponents of the bill admitted in a [recorded secret call](#) that provisions of the bill are popular, even among conservatives, and instead want to rely on "under-the-dome-type-strategies" to defeat it.

This isn't just a policy disagreement. This is bigger than protecting our freedom to vote, breaking the grip of big money in politics, and stopping gerrymandering. This fight is fundamental to our democracy and a country where every person has the power to set the direction and vision of our country.

We strongly urge a "yes" vote to begin debate on the Freedom to Vote Act later this week.

Sincerely,



Karen Hobert Flynn  
President  
Common Cause