İndependent Women's Voice®

H.R. 1 and Election Integrity



What's at Stake

Voting is a fundamental privilege of every American over the age of 18. Today, elections enable all citizens to make their voices heard at every level of government.

Unfortunately, the so-called "For the People Act," or H.R. 1, threatens this privilege and undermines election security. Rather than empowering citizens, H.R. 1 dilutes the power of your vote.

H.R. 1 radically alters the way in which American elections are conducted. H.R. 1 undermines basic security measures, inviting fraud that may cancel out your vote. Among other things, H.R. 1 nullifies state laws that require voter identification, mandates automatic and same-day voter registration, and overrides state laws that restrict the ability of individuals or groups to collect and submit large numbers of ballots (i.e., ballot "harvesting"). It also prohibits states from enacting measures aimed at removing from their registration rolls the names of people who are deceased or who have moved out of the jurisdiction.

The Way Forward

To ensure that every citizen has an equal voice in politics, election procedures must make voting both accessible and secure. The failure to ensure election integrity has the potential to cancel out ballots, including those cast by black citizens who have consistently turned out at high rates in recent elections compared to other racial and ethnic groups.

We need to strengthen laws that protect voters, not get rid of them. We should make voting as secure as other civic practices, such as accessing government buildings, transportation systems, and education facilities. If we need identification (ID) to drive a car, check out a library book, open a checking account, or purchase alcohol, it is even more important that the person voting as you has to prove they are you before they vote.

Prohibiting voter ID requirements makes no sense and threatens our democracy.

Addressing Misperceptions

MISPERCEPTIONS	FACTS
Requiring a voter to show or have an ID is racist and just a way to suppress voting.	IDs are the best way to confirm someone's identity and ensure that identity theft does not take place. That's why IDs are used so commonly in any transaction in our society. The notion that black people either don't have, or don't know how to obtain, the identification required to drive a car, buy alcohol, or open a bank account is itself racist.
It's rare for voting systems to require that voters show IDs.	Essentially every voting system in the developed world requires that voters show ID. This includes countries such as Norway, India, Germany, Argentina, Switzerland, France, Mexico, and Israel. Here in the U.S, most states require some form of identification to vote.
Most American voters oppose voter ID laws.	Polling shows American voters across all demographics overwhelmingly support voter ID laws.