

The Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act

The *Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act* ensures safe, secure and accessible elections for all, enhances the ability of every American to cast their ballots freely, equally and without interference, and sets national standards for voting access to guarantee the right to vote in our nation's democracy. This measure combines two pieces of vital democracy-promotion legislation – the *Freedom to Vote Act* and the *John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act*.

The *Freedom to Vote Act* will set basic national standards for voting, stop partisan gerrymandering on both sides of the aisle, and strengthen the American people's faith in our democracy. The bill will:

- Expand **automatic voter registration** and **same-day registration**;
- Set a national standard for **no-excuse vote by mail** for every eligible voter;
- Protect against unlawful and faulty **voter purges**, while allowing states to accurately maintain their voter registration lists;
- Expand **early voting** by requiring states to offer early voting at least two weeks prior to Election Day;
- Enhance protections **individuals with disabilities**;
- Make **Election Day** as a national holiday;
- Provides standards for **voter identification**, which require uniform national standard for states that require identification for in-person voting and allows voters to present a broad set of identification cards and documents in hard copy and digital form.
- Prevent partisan **election subversion** by restricting the politicized removal of election officials and enhance the protections for election records, including ballots and voting systems;
- Prohibit the dissemination of false and misleading information designed to dissuade eligible voters from casting a ballot;
- Improve **election security** by requiring post-election audits and voter verifiable paper records of a votes;
- Protect elections from foreign interference;
- End **partisan gerrymandering**;
- Promote digital ad transparency;
- Force disclosure of **dark money**; and
- Establish a self-sustaining democracy trust fund to support state-directed democracy promotion activities.

In addition, this bill contains the *John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act*, which corrects the Supreme Court's disastrous decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which held the Voting Rights Act Section 4 preclearance coverage formula to be unconstitutional and responds to the call from the Chief Justice for a formula that reflects current conditions. This division also includes the *Native American Voting Rights Act*, which protects the rights of Native Americans to vote and addresses the barriers experienced by voters living on tribal lands.