



How to Talk About:
H.R. 1 AND ELECTION INTEGRITY

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Five Key Points: About H.R. 1 And Election Integrity

1

H.R. 1 WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR STATES TO ENSURE THAT YOUR VOICE IS HEARD AND YOUR VOTE IS SECURED. H.R. 1:

- Bans voter ID.
- Prohibits states from removing from their registration rolls the names of people who are deceased or who have moved out of the jurisdiction.
- Makes it easier for corrupt practices such as one person delivering hundreds of ballots known as “ballot harvesting,” and one person casting more than one vote in an election known as the “ballot box stuffing,” that can cancel your vote and those of others who need their voices heard.

2

H.R. 1 TRANSFERS POWER FROM YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITIES TO POLITICIANS IN WASHINGTON.

- H.R. 1 transfers election authority from the states to Washington, D.C. and having one system, rather than 50+, makes them more subject to manipulation and electoral fraud.

3

PROHIBITING VOTER ID PUTS YOUR VOTE AT RISK.

- IDs are the most reliable way to verify our identity and prevent fraud. Americans use IDs every day to drive their cars, check out library books, open bank accounts, and purchase alcohol.
- The same companies protesting laws requiring voter ID require voter ID for voting their own shares, entering their buildings, or picking up their tickets.
- States like New Hampshire, which requires voter ID, tend to have **high voter participation**.
- Around the world, including in Israel, Spain, and Mexico, photo IDs are required and mail in ballots are strictly limited with stringent ID requirements to prevent fraud.
- The only way to ensure that your voice is heard is to ensure that your vote is your vote. No one can pretend to be you or try to cancel your vote.

4

AMERICANS KNOW VOTER ID LAWS ARE NOT RACIST.

- The majority of Americans, including a majority of black voters, support laws requiring citizens to provide proof of identification before voting.
- Saying that people with a certain skin color either don't have, or don't know how to obtain, identification is inaccurate, condescending, and racist.

5

H.R. 1 WILL RESULT IN LESS SECURE ELECTIONS. H.R. 1 HAS THE POTENTIAL TO DISENFRANCHISE YOU AND MILLIONS OF OTHER AMERICANS WHO DESERVE TO HAVE THEIR VOICES HEARD.

- Fraudulent ballots cancel out legitimate votes, including those cast by women and racial minorities who voted in record numbers in 2020.

Misperceptions v. Facts

1. MISPERCEPTION: H.R. 1 will improve the U.S. election system and protect the voting rights of all citizens.

FACT: To ensure that the election process meets the specific needs of states and their voters, states should administer their own elections. Yet H.R. 1 transfers power from the states to the federal government and centralizes control over elections in

Washington, D.C. while eliminating basic security precautions. This can make it easier for bad actors to manipulate votes and invites election fraud that may cancel out your vote.

2. MISPERCEPTION: Voter ID laws are just a strategy to suppress voting.

FACT: Voter ID laws verify voter identity, deter fraud, and make elections secure. This protects voters against identity theft and helps to ensure that every vote counts. The same precautions included in

the recent Georgia law have been in place in many blue states for years, and are neither racist nor discriminatory. Studies show that ID laws do not suppress voting.

3. MISPERCEPTION: The U.S. is the only Western democracy in the world that requires that voters show IDs.

FACT: The vast majority of countries **require that voters show ID** in order to vote. This includes countries such

as Norway, India, Germany, Mexico, Switzerland, France, and Israel.

4. MISPERCEPTION: Most Americans support H.R. 1.

FACT: A **recent survey from Rasmussen Reports** found that **69% of black voters** think identification should be required to vote. In fact, polling shows that the public has long supported voter identification measures. A **2016 Gallup**

survey found widespread support for voter identification laws, and a **2018 survey from Pew Research** found that 76% of American adults favor these requirements.

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5. MISPERCEPTION: Mail-in voting is just as secure as in-person voting.

FACT: The more steps between your vote and the voting booth/box, the more likely it is for security issues to arise. Mail-in ballots are less secure than ballots cast in person. According to the *New York Times*, “there is a bipartisan consensus that voting by mail...is more easily abused than

other forms” and that “votes cast by mail are less likely to be counted, more likely to be compromised, and more likely to be contested than those cast in a voting booth.” That is why many states require a valid reason for voting by absentee ballot.

6. MISPERCEPTION: Voter rolls and databases are always up to date.

FACT: They are NOT up to date. Current voter rolls contain millions of duplications, mistakes, and ineligible voters. Pew Center on the States **found** that “Approximately 24 million—one of every eight—voter registrations in the United States are no longer valid or are significantly inaccurate. More than 1.8 million deceased individuals are listed

as voters. Approximately 2.75 million people have registrations in more than one state.” If states aren’t able or choose not to remove from their registration rolls the names of people who are deceased or who have moved out of the jurisdiction, many and multiple illegal ballots will be sent out, and those votes can cancel YOUR vote.

7. MISPERCEPTION: State efforts to secure elections are “Jim Crow for the 21st century.”

FACT: Common-sense measures to secure a state’s election system do not restrict voting access and have nothing to do with “**Jim Crow,**” a series of racist, disenfranchising and discriminatory Democrat laws which have been rightfully defunct and repudiated for 70 years. In contrast, under all the proposed

reforms, all citizens have or can easily obtain identification, and states provide a free ID to anyone who does not have one. To say either that blacks are unable to get ID, or that they do not want or do not have a right to have their vote protected is in fact racist.

You have a right to have your vote count. Take this quiz and find out what you know about the so-called For The People Act (H.R. 1) and Election Integrity.

1 TRUE or FALSE: A centralized election system controlled by people in Washington DC will prevent fraud and abuse.

- A.** True
- B.** False

**2 If enacted, H.R. 1 will:
(Mark all that apply)**

- A.** Repeal voter ID laws;
- B.** Prohibit states from removing from their registration rolls the names of people who are deceased or who have moved out of the jurisdiction;
- C.** Override laws aimed at preventing corrupt practices such as ballot harvesting (when one person or group delivers hundreds of ballots), and ballot box stuffing (when one person casts more than one vote).

3 TRUE or FALSE: Voter ID laws suppress voting.

- A.** True
- B.** False

4 TRUE OR FALSE: The US is the only country that has laws requiring voter ID for voting.

- A.** True
- B.** False

5 What percentage of Americans support voter ID laws?

- A.** 15 percent
- B.** 27 percent
- C.** 43 percent
- D.** 75 percent

Quiz Answers

Q1 ANSWER: B

False. In [presidential elections](#), centralized elections systems controlled by Washington make it easier to commit election fraud/irregularities across the country. State-level systems allow for each state's specific needs. What is needed in Vermont may not be what is needed in California to have secure and free elections.

Q2 ANSWER: A, B, AND C.

H.R. 1 does all of these things, making it more difficult for states to prevent fraud and abuse.

Q3 ANSWER: B

False. [Studies](#) show that ID laws do not suppress voting. Voter ID laws verify voter identity and deter fraud. This protects voters against identity theft and helps to ensure that every vote counts.

Q4 ANSWER: B

False. Essentially every voting system in the developed world [requires that voters show ID](#). This includes Norway, India, Germany, Argentina, Switzerland, France, Mexico, and Israel.

Q5 ANSWER: D

75 percent. [A recent survey from Rasmussen Reports](#) found that 75 percent of likely voters, and [69 percent of black voters](#), think voters should be required to show identification before voting. In fact, polling shows that the public has long supported voting identification measures. A [2016 Gallup survey](#) found widespread support for voting identification laws, and a [2018 survey from Pew Research](#) found that 76% of American adults favor these requirements.

H.R. 1 and Election Integrity in 60 Seconds

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 disenfranchises them.

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.

Two Truths and A Lie: H.R. 1

Everyone loves the party game/icebreaker “two truths and a lie.” In early March, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, also known as the “For the People Act.” This proposed law, which is nearly 800 pages long, makes major changes to the way in which American elections are conducted.

Can you identify which of the following is NOT true about H.R.1?

- A. H.R. 1 puts control in Washington, D.C. rather than locally**
- B. H.R. 1 eliminates basic security measures, including voter identification requirements.**
- C. H.R. 1 curbs political corruption and amplifies the voice of less advantaged citizens by taking “dark money” out of politics.**

Let's take these statements one at a time:

A. TRUE! H.R. 1 transfers power from the states to the federal government and centralizes control over elections in Washington, D.C. But under the Constitution, states are supposed to regulate their own elections. A decentralized election system is the

best way to protect against corruption and fraud. That's because checks and balances provide oversight, deter fraud and other illegal actions, and prevent bad actors from obtaining excessive unchecked power. Although Congress in the past appropriately stepped in to stop jurisdictions from disenfranchising racial minorities, the federal government should not otherwise control elections.

B. TRUE! H.R. 1 nullifies state laws that require voters to show identification, mandates automatic and same-day voter registration and overrides state laws that seek to curb ballot “harvesting” (i.e., the submission of large numbers of other people's ballots). It also prohibits states from removing from their registration rolls the names of people who are deceased or who have moved out of the jurisdiction. All of these provisions will make it harder for states to prevent fraud and abuse.

C. FALSE! H.R. 1 requires certain nonprofit organizations to publicly disclose the names and addresses of their donors -- the one thing that has little or no connection to election fraud and security. The donor disclosure

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provision of H.R.1 undermines freedom of association and discourages giving to good but initially socially stigmatized causes, like racial equality and gay marriage. The ACLU objects to this provision of the bill because it will undermine the ability of public policy nonprofits to get the support needed to defend what “some people” may think are unpopular causes, which is the heart of a vibrant and flourishing democracy.