

# The National Federation of Republican Women

## Advocates for Election Integrity: Voter ID, Verified Registration, & Ballot Security

**Issue Summary:** The National Federation of Republican Women believes Americans need and deserve free and fair elections that they can trust. Every citizen's vote should be secret and sacred; the vote is how we guarantee that our government remains of the people, by the people, and for the people. As we head into the 2022 midterm elections, our focus at the local, state and national levels is to ensure it is easy to vote, but hard to cheat. Recent convictions for election fraud across the country underscore the need for ongoing election integrity efforts.

### **Voter ID Is Common-Sense and Enjoys Widespread Support:**

Push back against attempts to falsely portray voter ID requirements as a means of voter suppression and to eliminate ID requirements on the state or federal level.

- **Voter ID laws enjoy widespread public support.** A 2021 national poll found 80 percent support for voter ID as an important security measure.
- **Voter ID laws have been upheld by the Supreme Court.** In 2008 in a 6 to 3 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court in *Crawford v. Marion County Board of Elections*, concluded that photo ID requirement supported Indiana's legitimate state interests in preventing voter fraud. The slight burden the law imposed on voters' rights to prove their identity did not outweigh these interests, which the Court characterized as "neutral and nondiscriminatory."
- **Photo ID is required for air travel, health care, banking, and many other aspects of American life.** Shouldn't the sacred ballot be equally secure?

### **Accurate Voter Rolls Are Essential to Free and Fair Elections**

Support verified registration, proper voter list maintenance, and election transparency to keep voter rolls accurate.

- **Dead and duplicate registrants** and voters have been found in multiple states; insist on clean lists and resist efforts to lower the bar on list cleanup.
- **Protect the public's right to monitor the voter rolls** under the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).
- **Hold election officials accountable** for the accuracy of their rolls.

### **Grassroots Efforts Are Key to Combat Bad Laws, Provide Ballot Security, and Prevent Election Fraud**

The National Federation of Republican Women is fighting Democrats' unprecedented attempts to change election laws for partisan advantage. We oppose attempts from Washington to nationalize election administration and we support efforts to ensure our states follow best practices such as ensuring poll watchers are allowed to properly observe counting processes, meaningful voter ID laws are codified, and all Americans have faith in our elections process. We are assembling a well-trained army of election volunteers to watch all phases of the election process to limit opportunities for fraud.

**ACTION: Oppose legislation that dismantles a state’s ability to provide increased election integrity and secure elections through strengthened voter ID, verified registration, and ballot security.**

**Background and History on Recent Legislation: Opposition to the so-called “Freedom to Vote” or John R. Lewis Act**

The bill narrowly passed the House of Representatives on August 24, 2021 (219-212), on a partisan vote but later failed in the Senate when it didn’t receive enough votes to invoke cloture. In a second attempt, Democrats embedded the legislation into another bill. This too failed when Democratic Senators Joe Manchin and Kyrsten Sinema opposed their leadership’s attempt to change the rules to exempt the bill from the filibuster rules.

**The Filibuster Promotes Consensus and Due Deliberation:** The “Freedom to Vote” bill faced a major hurdle of getting through a Republican filibuster in the Senate. Sixty votes would have been required to break a filibuster and proceed to an actual vote on the bill, meaning that at least 10 Republican Senators would have needed to support the legislation. Some Democratic Senators stated that they wish to get rid of the filibuster entirely, citing the passage of the “voting rights” bill as a part of the reason, but others were opposed to undermining the Senate’s stature as a great deliberative body.

**Bill Summary of Egregious Provisions (guard against new efforts to pass these bad ideas):**

- 1.) **Disregards state voter ID law** - Inhibits states’ ability to pass voter ID laws without federal clearance and forces states to accept signature verification. The bill prohibits using ID verification as a condition to vote by mail.
- 2.) **Publicly funds campaigns and makes FEC partisan** - The Federal Election Commission would control the regulator’s operations and actions. A 6-1 federal funding match would be funded by corporate and high taxpayer settlements.
- 3.) **Nationalizes elections** - Strips away states’ ability to safeguard election integrity. Mandates no-excuse absentee voting, automatic voter registration, same-day registration, a ballot receipt deadline seven day after election, and 15 days of mandatory early voting.
- 4.) **Creates an Election Czar** – Make the U.S. Attorney General an unelected “Election Czar.” Changes to a state’s voting laws such as voter ID could be made circumventing state constitutions and processes.
- 5.) **Limits states’ ability to conduct voter roll list maintenance** – Restricts efforts to clean voter registration rolls to ensure accuracy. Punishes states with robust efforts to clean-up voter registration by limiting efforts and lowers the bar for bad actor states with egregious voter rolls.



With over 65,000 members, the National Federation of Republican Women is the largest voice for Republican women in Washington DC. Our seal depicts an eagle standing guard over the ballot box, reflecting our commitment to protect the people’s votes and the integrity of our elections. Since 1938, NFRW’s grassroots strength has helped elect Republicans (and especially women) to office at all levels of government.