

# VOTING RIGHTS TAKEN AWAY!

## WHAT IS GOD CALLING US TO DO NOW?

New voter suppression laws became law in 24 of our 50 states in 2021-22, with even more being pushed right now across the country. This makes it very hard, at times impossible, to vote for many, especially African American, poor, Native American, and young adult citizens. This will radically skew future elections.

Pittsburgh Presbytery adopted on May 19, 2022, "Citizens' Right to Vote: A Call to Action," to be communicated to both churches and public officials to encourage actions to get and protect the right to vote. *With our Lord Jesus Christ's clear commandments to love others (and hence include their votes!),* we urged in that Call that "Governments at every level need to make voting safe, secure, and easily accessible for all citizens. Congress can help by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, the For the People Act, and the Freedom to Vote Act, or comparable legislation, and state legislatures must not be allowed to twist voting procedures for partisan advantage. We call upon our representatives at all levels of government to guarantee the fundamental right to vote for every eligible American."

### SUGGESTED ACTIONS TO TAKE NOW:

**Write your U.S. Senators, Representative, and the President and Vice-President, urging national voting rights legislation** be passed immediately, such as the 2022 John Lewis Voting Rights Act, the For the People Act, the Freedom to Vote Act, or comparable legislation. (See Resource list for more info.)

**Help people get registered to vote** – and to get to the polls to vote, if need be. Churches can host nonpartisan **Voter Registration Days** and publicize those in their local regions. (See Resources below.)

Encourage people to **learn where all candidates stand** on Voting Rights, how they have voted in the past and what they say they will do now if elected, and use your vote to urge Voting Rights.

**PRAY TO GOD FOR GOD'S JUSTICE, MERCY, FAITH AND LOVE TO ENABLE FREE AND FAIR ACCESS TO VOTING FOR ALL!**

- With prayers from the Peacemaking Ministry Team, ARTT (Anti-Racism Transformation Team), & Amos 5:24 Committee of Pittsburgh Presbytery and the Pittsburgh Chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus

## **SOME NONPARTISAN RESOURCES AND HELPERS:**

**The League of Women Voters** 412-261-4284 lwvpgh.org  
The website offers a wealth of info and resources on elections, how to register to vote, laws, current public officials, and more.

The League of Women Voters offers to hold **Voter Registration Days** at Churches or Community Centers. Call Judy Clack, VP of Voter Services, to schedule: Phone her at 512-731-0280 or email [voterservice@lwvpgh.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvpgh.org).

**B-PEP (The Black Political Empowerment Project)** 412-212-8775 b-pep.net  
The website offers info and resources on elections, how to register, get rides to polls, and more.

**Election Protection Hotline** 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683)

**Alleghenycounty.us** Website of the Allegheny County Elections Division  
412-350-4500

**Vote.pa.gov** Official website of State of Pennsylvania – Info and means to register to vote, get a mail-in or absentee ballot, and more

**Vote411.org** Website for nonpartisan info about candidates on current ballot

**Pittsburgh Presbytery** May 19, 2022, complete statement of “Citizens’ Right to Vote: A Call to Action” and more info can be found on its website in the Justice Ministries/Justice Corner section.

## **Current PA U.S. Senators, U.S. President, V-P, and addresses:**

U.S. Senator Bob Casey  
200 N. Third St, Suite 14A  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
866-461-9159 (toll-free phone)

U.S. Senator John Fetterman  
320 Market St, Suite 475E  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-782-3951, 412-803-3501

President Joe Biden  
1600 Pennsylvania Av, NW  
Washington, DC 20500  
202-456-1111 or 202-456-6213

Vice President Kamala Harris  
1600 Pennsylvania Av, NW  
Washington, DC 20500  
202-456-1111 or 202-456-6213

To communicate online, go to their websites and submit under “Contact” tab. Find the name of your Representative in the U.S. House and search online to easily find out how to write to them. (Use the list on the League of Women Voters website if you need it!)