For the People Act Friendbank Frequently Asked Questions

This document is designed to answer the majority of questions you may have before participating in our For the People Act friendbank! Create an OutreachCircle account and follow the League of Women Voters here to participate in our friendbank.

The first few sections contains answers that volunteers may have, and the final section includes sample text responses you can use during the friendbank to answer questions you may receive from your friends and family while contacting them!

If you have additional questions before the friendbank, reach out to our team at organizing@lwv.org

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General Questions

Who is the League of Women Voters?

The League of Women Voters of the United States encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League is proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

What is a friendbank?

Like a textbank or phonebank, volunteers will reach out to individuals to encourage them to take action; except instead of contacting strangers from a voter file, we will be reaching out to our own contacts! Friendbanks are especially effective because people are more likely to act if they have been asked by a trusted messenger—like you!

For the People Act Questions

What is the For the People Act (HR1)?

The For the People Act (HR1) is the democracy reform bill the American people want and deserve. This legislation will put power back into the hands of American voters by making voting easier
and more accessible and by modernizing future elections. Over the last two years, we saw it pass the House or Representatives, but get stalled at the Senate. The House is set to vote on the For the People Act in the first week of March and it is imperative that it passes. The For the People Act addresses some of the most pressing issues facing our democracy because it will:

- Restore the Voting Rights Act
- Modernize our voter registration system
- Update the public financing of elections through small donor matching funds
- Curb partisan gerrymandering, and
- Make campaign contributions more transparent.

You can find more talking points about HR1 from LWVUS here!

**Why are we asking our friends and family to contact their representatives?**

Elected officials are accountable to their constituents. The more individuals who contact a representative around a particular issue, the more likely they are to pay attention to that issue, because they know how important it is to their constituents. Relational organizing is the strategy by which people tap into their own networks to increase the base of engagement around an issue or goal. By reaching out to our networks and asking them to take action we are inviting them to use their own power to engage with issues they may care about and increasing our collective power to advocate for these significant democracy reforms. We expect HR1 to pass in the House of Representatives but having this strong base of engaged supporters will be key to build momentum as the bill is introduced in the Senate soon.

**What if my representative has already committed to cosponsor/vote Yes on HR1?**

Amazing! You can contact them to thank them for committing to vote Yes. You can also tweet your thanks at them using this language:

Thank you @____________ for standing up for our #democracy! Now is the time for the bold reforms of #HR1, the #ForThePeopleAct. #passHR1

You can find the full list of current cosponsors for HR1 here.
You can look up your representative’s Twitter handle to tag them in your thank you tweet here!

**OutreachCircle Questions**

**What is OutreachCircle?**

OutreachCircle is a digital platform and relational organizing tool for organizations and campaigns to keep their supporters up to date and share all the ways people can get involved. OutreachCircle allows supporters to volunteer in their spare time, whenever and wherever that may be. Through OutreachCircle, LWV members and supporters can directly contact their friends and family all in one place. This tool can be used on a mobile device or (with limited functionality) on a desktop computer.

If you would like to contact your friends and family via text message, you will have to download the OutreachCircle app. However, if you would like to contact them via email you can do that through the app or through your browser.
Follow the League of Women Voters on OutreachCircle here to take our friendbank action!

**Will OutreachCircle steal my contacts or spam them with future communication?**

No. OutreachCircle and LWV do not have access to any supporter's contact information, such as email or personal phone numbers. The contacts a supporter uploads to OutreachCircle to text or email are kept private to that supporter. Supporters at any time can delete their contacts if you desire. Only supporters can contact their contacts. They decide who they want to message, when to message them, and what the message says. OutreachCircle and LWV cannot message their contacts directly. OutreachCircle has a privacy policy that prohibits them from contacting any of your contacts. OutreachCircle will never share or sell supporter contact information with the League of Women Voters or any 3rd party.

You can find more information about OutreachCircle’s privacy policy on their website here.

**Sample Text Responses**

**What is the For the People Act?**

It’s a bill full of comprehensive democracy reforms, including restoring the Voting Rights Act, modernizing our voter registration system & curbing partisan gerrymandering!

**Why are you texting me?**

The House of Representatives is voting on HR1 tomorrow and we want as many yes votes as possible. Join me in contacting our representatives to ensure this bill passes!

**Why should I contact my representative if we already know it’s going to pass?**

It’s important to show our representatives that HR1 has a broad base of supporters! This will build up the momentum we need for when it is introduced in the Senate.

**My representative has already agreed to vote yes.**

Amazing! You can contact them or even tweet at them to thank them for their commitment to democracy reform!

**My representative will never vote yes.**

It’s still important to contact them and show them this is an issue we care about! As our representatives, they need to know about the issues their constituents care about.

**I want to share this with my friends/get more involved/find other actions I can take around democracy reform issues!**

That’s great! For more actions you can take around democracy reform issues like HR1, follow the League of Women Voters on OutreachCircle at this link: https://outreachcircle.com/TQF340