

July 22, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McCarthy and Leader McConnell:

As civil rights and voting advocacy organizations, we write to urge your support of critical election infrastructure funding in the funding packages Congress will consider this summer.

Earlier this month, over 300 local election officials, mayors, and Secretaries of State sent bipartisan letters highlighting the need for election infrastructure funding. As the individuals and leaders closest to the administration of fair and secure elections, they have collectively called for federal support in meeting the immense needs they face. We write to add our voices to that important ask.

Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of our democracy. As you know, we stand firmly in support of Congress' ongoing efforts to ensure that all Americans have access to the ballot. We believe that sufficiently funding election infrastructure will be essential to implementing these policy changes. Elections are one of America's most locally-run tasks, administered by local officials who commit long hours to ensuring that elections are fair and secure. Election officials are often required to make difficult decisions due to inadequate funding—such as consolidating polling places, using outdated technology, or hiring fewer staff. These funding barriers most significantly impact communities of color and lower income communities, make voting more difficult for citizens, and make our elections less secure.

In early 2017, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security designated election infrastructure as part of the federal government's Critical Infrastructure Sector. A federal investment in election infrastructure would be in line with Congress' support of other Critical Infrastructure and would provide our local election officials with the resources they need to administer reliable, secure, and accessible elections for years to come.

We urge Congress to allocate \$20 billion for election infrastructure funding this year.

Sincerely,

## NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for Youth Action  
America Votes  
Black Girls Vote, Inc.  
Center for Common Ground  
Center for Popular Democracy  
Center for Secure and Modern Elections  
Center for Tech and Civic Life  
Common Defense  
Data for Progress  
Equality Federation  
Issue One  
Law Forward  
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law  
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
Mi Familia Vota  
NAACP  
National Education Association  
National Redistricting Foundation  
Secure Democracy  
SiX Action  
State Democracy Project  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
VoteVets

## STATE ORGANIZATIONS

A Better Wisconsin Institute  
ACLU of Florida  
ACLU of Michigan  
All About The Ballots  
All Voting Is Local Arizona  
All Voting Is Local Florida  
All Voting is Local Michigan  
All Voting is Local Nevada  
All Voting is Local Ohio  
All Voting is Local Pennsylvania  
All Voting is Local Wisconsin  
Arizona Advocacy Network  
Arizona Students Association  
Battle Born Progress

Black Leaders Organizing for Communities (BLOC)  
Citizen Action of Wisconsin  
Connecticut Citizens Action Group  
Democracy North Carolina  
Equal Ground Action Fund  
Equality Arizona  
Florida Conservation Education Fund  
Fuerte Arts Movement  
League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County  
Main Street Alliance of Vermont  
Mi Familia Vota - Arizona  
Michigan League of Conservation Voters  
New Georgia Project Action Fund  
New Jersey Institute for Social Justice  
Progress Arizona  
Progressive Mariposa  
ProgressNow New Mexico Education Fund  
RCV Maryland  
Represent Maryland  
Rural Arizona Action  
Ruth's List Florida  
Showing Up For Racial Justice - Baltimore  
Silver State Voices  
Souls to the Polls Milwaukee  
TakeAction Minnesota  
Texas Civil Rights Project  
The Arizona Students' Association  
The Voter Project  
Voters Not Politicians  
Wisconsin Council of Churches  
Wisconsin Democracy Campaign  
Wisconsin Education Association Council  
Wisconsin Farmers Union

cc: The Honorable John Yarmuth, Chair, House Committee on the Budget  
The Honorable Jason Smith, Ranking Member, House Committee on the Budget  
The Honorable Zoe Lofgren, Chair, House Committee on Rules  
The Honorable Rodney Davis, Ranking Member, House Committee on Rules  
The Honorable Bernie Sanders, Chair, Senate Committee on the Budget  
The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Budget  
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar, Chair, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration  
The Honorable Roy Blunt, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration