



H.R.1 | 'For the People' Act

In 2019, U.S. House lawmakers introduced H.R. 1 or the For the People Act. This historic legislation would create a more responsive and representative government by making it easier to vote and harder to gerrymander, transforming how campaigns are funded to amplify the voices of ordinary Americans, and bolstering election security and government ethics rules. **Key elements include:**

- **Streamline Voter Registration:** H.R. 1 would bring Automatic and Same-Day Registration to voters across the nation. Under Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), eligible voters are automatically registered when they provide information at the DMV or other government agencies, unless they opt out. Same-Day Registration (SDR) would allow voters to register at the polls on Election Day. (In N.C., this would be an expansion of Same-Day Registration, which is currently only available during Early Voting.)
- **Commit to Full Restoration of the Voting Rights Act.** H.R. 1 affirms Congress's commitment to restore the full protections of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, the landmark civil rights law that was undermined by the Supreme Court's 2013 *Shelby County* decision. (Before the *Shelby County* decision, any statewide change to voting laws in N.C. had to be pre-cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice.)
- **Ensure Access to Early Voting Nationwide.** H.R. 1 also would ensure that all voters have at least two weeks of Early Voting, including evening and weekend hours.
- **Allow Citizen-Funded Elections for Congress.** H.R. 1 would create a small-donor matching system for Congressional races and revamp the matching system for presidential contests. Small-donor matching is an innovative reform that uses public funds to amplify small private donations, which keeps candidates accountable to ordinary people, not just big money interest.
- **Strengthen Campaign Finance Laws.** H.R. 1 also includes strong measures to close loopholes in federal campaign disclosure rules, curb use of foreign funds in U.S. elections, and fix the Federal Election Commission, our nation's dysfunctional campaign finance regulator.
- **Curb Extreme Partisan Gerrymandering.** H.R. 1 would require that states use independent redistricting commissions to draw congressional districts, establish fair redistricting criteria, and mandate greater transparency for the redistricting process.
- **Improve Election Security.** H.R. 1 contains a number of provisions to improve election security, including a requirement that states replace paperless voting machines, grants to help states enhance election security on an ongoing basis and develop better processes for auditing disputed election results, and new security requirements for election system vendors.
- **Strengthen and Expand Ethics Laws.** H.R. 1 shores up government ethics rules by strengthening enforcement for the Executive Branch, requiring disclosure of presidential tax returns, tightening restrictions on congressional conflicts of interest, and requiring the Supreme Court to adopt a code of ethics.

Take action in support of H.R. 1, the For the People Act at demnc.co/forthepeople



North Carolina's 'For the People' Agenda

In 2019, N.C. lawmakers have introduced dozens of bills to reform the state's broken redistricting process, help voters cast their ballot without fear, expand voter registration and voting access, and limit the corrupting role of money in politics. **This agenda is anchored by five key proposals, including:**

Gold Standard Citizens Redistricting Commission

Senate Bill 673's 'gold standard' redistricting reform legislation would create a citizen-led, independent redistricting commission that would take the power to draw maps away from lawmakers, remove the incentive to rig maps regardless of who's in power, and elevate citizen input and partisanship. This transformational bill is one of seven redistricting reform options introduced in the 2019 long session.

Restoration of the Final Saturday of Early Voting

In 2018, lawmakers passed S325, a law that required uniform 12-hour (7 a.m.-7 p.m.) weekday Early Voting hours in all 100 counties, and eliminated voting on the popular final Saturday before Election Day. House Bill 893 would restore the final Saturday of Early Voting and put the flexibility to determine Early Voting schedules and sites back in the hands of the county Boards of Elections where it belongs.

Pro-Voter Reforms for People Serving Felony Sentences

Under current law, North Carolinians convicted of a felony lose their voting rights until their sentence is complete, including any time on probation. Disenfranchising those who are living and working in our communities while completing their sentence is confusing for probation officers, election officials, and the individuals themselves. While there aren't currently any bills that would address this specific issue, House Bill 819 would remove the possibility of people serving felony sentences being charged with a second felony simply because they misunderstand the law, allowing justice-involved North Carolinians to vote without fear.

Online and Automatic Voter Registration

Several bills would establish Online Voter Registration (OVR), allowing voters to register, check and update their registration through a secure and accessible online portal (currently available in 37 states), and/or Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), making voter registration at state agencies an "opt-out" versus an "opt-in." They include House Bill 574 Fix Our Democracy, House Bill 589 Let NC Vote Act, and Senate Bill 641 Fix Our Democracy.

Regulate Digital Campaign Communications

House Bill 700 would define and regulate "qualified digital communications" as part of political advertising disclosures. This timely, bipartisan legislation would help modernize N.C.'s political disclosure laws which currently omit references to digital ads, a major oversight at a time when foreign agents are actively using digital communications to undermine our nation's democracy.

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