

FIGHT EFFORTS TO DISENFRANCHISE VOTERS IN NC

WHEREAS, the right to vote is the most important responsibility we have in a democracy.

WHEREAS, in 2011, the GOP-controlled NC Legislature re-drew the voting districts in a manner widely criticized as gerrymandering; that is, manipulating district boundaries to create partisan advantaged districts. The re-districted maps resulted in nearly a third of registered voters in precincts split between one or more state House and Senate districts and targeted minority-dense areas.

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Board of Elections (NC BOE), of the 21 million votes cast in the state over the last 12 years, only one case of voter impersonation was turned over by the State Board of Elections for prosecution.

WHEREAS, the NC BOE reports nearly 613,000 voters, about 9.25 percent of registered voters, lack state-issued photo identification. A third of these voters are African American, nearly two thirds are women, and a quarter are senior citizens.

WHEREAS, in the 2013 NC Legislative Session, four new bills were introduced in the North Carolina General Assembly that pose a huge threat to the voting rights of the citizens of this state. These include:

1. Requiring state-issued photo ID to cast a ballot.
2. Cutting early voting – severely limiting the days and locations
3. Ending same day registration during early voting.
4. Penalizing parents of students who register to vote where they go to college.
5. Disenfranchising ex-felons.
6. Banning “incompetent” (i.e., those with a mental illness even if it does not affect their judgment on elections) voters from the polls.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that voter fraud is a non-issue in NC, and efforts to curtail this non-problem are costly and cumbersome distractions from real problems facing NC citizens.

WE ARE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the voters assembled strongly object to all measures taken that disenfranchise voters, reduce access to voting, manipulate district boundaries to achieve political bias in voting, or otherwise take corrosive steps to limit our democracy.

Affirmed through voice vote and platform discussion by Precinct H-03, March, 2013