

Jewish Dems

Voting Rights Toolkit

2024

**Everything you need to know to
defend our democracy.**



**Jewish Democratic
Council of America**

The battle for the soul of our nation may have started with neo-Nazis marching in the streets of Charlottesville and continued with the insurrection on January 6, 2021. Now Americans' right to vote is under attack in state legislatures and the federal government. No issue is more important in this moment than protecting our democracy and the fundamental right to vote, because all of our rights depend on the integrity of our democracy. Republicans are attacking voting rights through:

Disinformation

What began as foreign interference in the 2016 election quickly took the form of a widespread domestic threat propagated by Donald Trump. In spreading and normalizing the “Big Lie” that he had won the 2020 election, Trump persuaded [70%](#) of Republicans to believe him.



Delegitimization

Trump's effort to delegitimize the 2020 election results continued after he lost the 2020 election by more than seven million votes. It led to [more than 60 legal challenges](#) alleging election fraud, all of which were found to be without merit or were dismissed by courts across the country, including the Supreme Court. Trump and other MAGA extremists continued to delegitimize election results in 2022 and are already laying the foundation to delegitimize the 2024 election results.

Disenfranchisement

The Republican-led effort has expanded into a dangerous campaign to disenfranchise American voters through [hundreds](#) of proposed laws just in 2024 to restrict voting rights in at least 40 states across the country. Some of these bills have already become law.

Read: [It's a Simple Choice for American Jews: Democracy or Dictatorship](#)



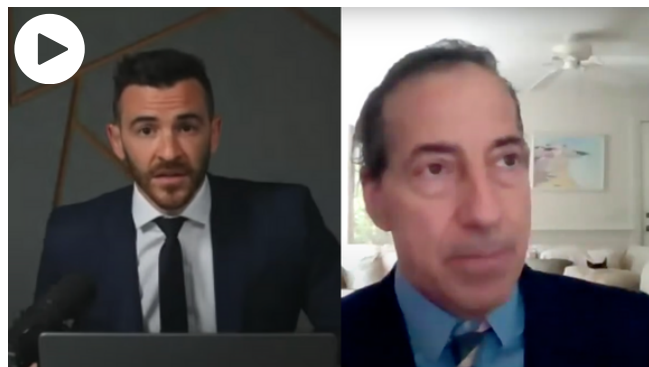
A Threat to the Future of Democracy

The future of democracy is the **most important issue** for Jewish voters, according to a survey conducted by the Jewish Electorate Institute in June 2023. Yet Republicans are unapologetically instigating threats to our democracy. In 2020 and 2022, they focused on spreading disinformation, delegitimizing results, and disenfranchising Americans. Leading up to the 2024 election, they made their playbook even more clear.

Project 2025

Republicans released their extreme blueprint for weakening democratic safeguards should Trump win reelection. Project 2025 erodes voting rights by politicizing the DOJ's Civil Rights Division, which enforces the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act. It also calls for the president to weaponize their power and take control of every aspect of the federal government. If enacted, Trump would have unchecked authority to enact voter suppression rules, appoint January 6th insurrectionists to the government, and dismantle election integrity.

Watch Rep. Jamie Raskin and Brian Tyler Cohen discuss the threat of Project 2025 with JDCA



Protecting our democracy is a Jewish value, and it's clear that we must elect people who will reject this extreme, dangerous plan to ensure everyone has access to our democracy.



Voter Suppression

Voters in [21 states](#) are under more restrictive voting rules this election cycle than they were in the 2022 midterms. [356 bills](#) that restrict voting access were introduced in [47 states](#) during legislative sessions in 2023. This is a direct attack on our democracy and we must take action to stop it.

According to the [ACLU](#), Project 2025 outlines Republicans' plan to “manipulate the 2030 census to deny representation and federal resources to millions; abuse executive power to suppress voting and interfere with elections.”

Trump's Big Lie that he won the 2020 election has been proven false time and again. If Republicans successfully suppress the vote and regain control of Congress and the White House, they could thwart the will of the people and undermine our democracy.

Want to stay up to date on all things voting rights? [Subscribe to On the Docket](#), the weekly newsletter from Marc Elias' Democracy Docket, the leading digital news platform dedicated to information, analysis, and opinion about voting rights and elections in the court.

“Our democracy cannot sustain further erosion of democratic norms... the next elections could mark a turning point that undermines how we conduct and certify elections so deeply that we will not recover.”

- Marc Elias

Founder of Democracy Docket

Visit www.democracymarket.com

Watch Marc Elias discuss the fight for democracy with JDCA



Restrictive Policies

The bills being introduced and passed by Republicans at the state and federal level aim to curtail absentee voting, impose unnecessarily strict voter ID requirements, make voter registration harder, expand voter roll purges, and limit early voting, among other restrictions. These voter suppression efforts are a direct threat to our democracy.

State Policies

Many states, including Florida and Georgia, have implemented harmful voter suppression policies. Georgia's 2024 [voter suppression](#) bill allows private citizens to challenge individuals' voter eligibility. This policy expands upon the already existing voter suppression laws, including one that removed the Secretary of State from the state board of elections to make it easier for Republicans to overturn a future election. In 2021, Florida Republican Governor Ron DeSantis signed [S.B. 90](#) into law, which restricts vote-by-mail, voter registration, and voter assistance - all of which are important measures that increase access to the ballot box.

Federal Policies

Republicans have attempted to pass restrictive policies at the federal level, though Democrats have successfully blocked their efforts so far. In 2022, Republicans introduced H.R.8528, the American Confidence in Elections Act, which would have restricted mail-in ballots and voter registration programs. If Republicans win in 2024, they will continue these efforts to suppress voting rights nationwide - and they will be successful.

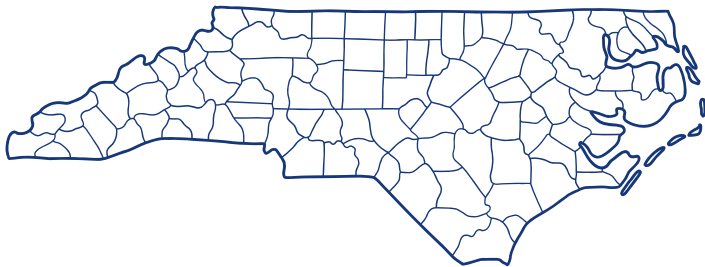
[Visit Voting Rights Lab to see how you can fight against voter suppression and subversion in your state.](#)



GOP Gerrymandering

Republicans have gone beyond suppressing the vote through enacting restrictive laws; they also use partisan gerrymandering to hand-draw congressional districts and take power away from voters.

Republican gerrymandering has diluted the power of voting by creating maps where Republicans give themselves a clear advantage in congressional elections.



For example, in 2023, North Carolina Republicans redrew congressional districts to create 10 safely red districts and only 3 safely blue districts - despite the state electing a Democratic governor and voting 48.6% for President Biden in 2020.

Gerrymandering disproportionately impacts marginalized communities, stripping people of color of their voting power and undermining the core value of democracy.

By splitting marginalized communities across multiple districts, Republicans use gerrymandering to limit their influence in elections. The Voting Rights Act protected voters from these partisan, restrictive measures, but the Republican-controlled Supreme Court gutted key protections in the Voting Rights Act and paved the way for the GOP to rig elections.



The Path Forward

Democrats have introduced multiple voting rights bills in the House and Senate, but House and Senate Republicans have stalled efforts to pass them.

The **Freedom to Vote Act** would enact sweeping reforms to many aspects of the electoral process such as voting options, election procedures, and campaign finance rules. The **John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act** would strengthen the Voting Rights Act by creating a new formula for “preclearance,” which requires states with a history of voter discrimination to get federal approval to change voting or redistricting practices.

Republicans have blocked these two critical voting rights bills.



If we elect Democrats in 2024, we can codify voting rights for everybody.



Take Action

We have much more work to do to make sure Democrats take back the House, expand our Senate majority, and keep the White House in November. Now is not the time for complacency, especially as Republicans engage in an unrelenting attack on the right to vote. Stay engaged with JDCA and help continue our crucial work to get out the Jewish vote for Democrats and protect our democracy.

To take action this election cycle, take these steps:

Sign up for a JDCA Phone Bank to call Jewish voters in key battleground states.

Help JDCA's PAC's ads reach Jewish voters millions of times before they vote by supporting JDCA PAC.

Follow JDCA on social media and sign up for email alerts.



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