



August 24, 2021

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative,

Issue One is a bipartisan political reform organization dedicated to strengthening our elections and building an inclusive democracy that works for everyone. Our nation is at a crossroads, and Republicans and Democrats must come together to find common ground and pass reforms that will help create a more perfect union. Among these reforms is H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Your race, background, or zip code must not act as a barrier for voting, which both parties in Congress have established by law, beginning with the Voting Rights Act in 1965. Every Voting Rights Act reauthorization has had bipartisan support and has been signed into law by a Republican president. The most recent reauthorization in 2006 had unanimous support in the Senate, and was signed into law by President George W. Bush.

Congress passed the Voting Rights Act to protect Americans' freedom to vote without discriminatory barriers. In the aftermath of *Shelby County v. Holder* (2013), we have watched the freedom to vote slip away in states across the nation. It is our responsibility as Americans to honor Congressman John Lewis' legacy and all those who have devoted their lives to voting rights to support H.R. 4.

The freedom to vote is a sacred bedrock of democracy and it should be treated as such. Congress has an opportunity to continue this bipartisan tradition with the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and we strongly urge you to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nick Penniman'.

Nick Penniman, Founder and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Meredith McGehee'.

Meredith McGehee, Executive Director