



DENISE W. MERRILL
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

March 2, 2021

Hon. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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

It's no accident that the 2020 elections were the most secure in American history. A monumental effort by election administrators—from board of elections officials, to county clerks, to poll workers—ensured our country's democratic process was stronger than ever, even with the unique challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the 2020 elections proved that our democracy is resilient, the elections also showed us that they cannot be taken for granted. Our elections were safe, secure, and successful because countless patriotic Americans took action to protect them. The policies that gave voters better options to safely register to vote and cast a ballot in the face of the pandemic were a resounding success and must now be made permanent.

Modernizing elections meant that eligible voters did not have to choose between casting a ballot and risking their health. It also resulted in record turnout for both parties. Policies like vote-by-mail for all and early voting saw resounding success in states and municipalities across the country. Now, only Congress can ensure that every eligible voter across America has access to these voting options in the future. That's why we need to immediately enact the *For The People Act* (H.R. 1) into law.

The *For The People Act* offers a comprehensive path to securing and modernizing American democracy for generations to come. The bill provides clear guidance for all 50 states and the District of Columbia to implement election processes that work for administrators and voters alike, and its adoption into law is critical to the future of American elections. Proven policies such as automatic and same-day voter registration will remove administrative obstacles for eligible voters while maintaining up-to-date and accurate voter rolls. Voter-verified paper ballots will ensure every vote is accurately recorded and allow administrators to run key audits to verify election results. Other provisions, such as independent redistricting commissions to combat gerrymandering and shining light on dark money, will further strengthen the integrity of our elections.

As the chief elections officials in our respective states, and as the administrators who will be tasked with executing many of the policies proposed in H.R. 1, we can confidently state that this bill is designed to make our democracy stronger and safer than ever. We proudly and firmly support the *For The People Act*, and we strongly recommend its passage in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

Sincerely,



Katie Hobbs
Arizona Secretary of State



Shirley Weber
California Secretary of State



Jena Griswold
Colorado Secretary of State




Denise Merrill

Connecticut Secretary of State



Kimberly Bassett
Secretary of the District of Columbia



Shenna Bellows
Maine Secretary of State



Jocelyn Benson
Michigan Secretary of State



Steve Simon
Minnesota Secretary of State



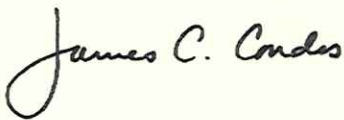
Maggie Toulouse Oliver
New Mexico Secretary of State



Shemia Fagan
Oregon Secretary of State



Nellie Gorbea
Rhode Island Secretary of State



Jim Condos
Vermont Secretary of State