



## American Constitutional Rights Union Action Fund

### **Important Warning about Leftist Bill Introduced in Congress—HR 1**

Not a single provision in the deliberately misnamed “For the People Act” (H.R. 1) contains reforms that benefit “the People.” It is not comprised of articles of reform, but provisions for oppression of the public.

It would be more aptly titled, “For the Progressives Act” or “The Silencing of Half of America Act of 2021.”

If passed, H.R. 1 would irrevocably change the very fundamental principles, practices and ideals upon which this country was founded and under which it has successfully stayed free for nearly 250 years.

Liberal members of Congress have made passing this bill full of misleading and disingenuous phrases a top priority for 2021. What these same liberal members of Congress have not made a priority is revealing the truth about it to the American public.

American Constitutional Rights Union Action has analyzed the almost 800 pages of the For the People Act and confirmed that it will be devastating to the cinderblocks of our republic and the freedom of every single American regardless of political association or ideology.

It attacks, manipulates, and controls the operation of non-profit organizations, the political speech that has been particularly protected at the Supreme Court, and the privacy of individuals, the businesses they operate, and donations they choose to make.

It ushers in national domination of elections, limiting expression over the Internet and on social media, and congressional control over redistricting and judicial nominations. H.R. 1 does all of this in a way that ensures that the party currently in control of Capitol Hill — and pushing the bill—will remain in power in perpetuity, making elections of little consequence and voters’ choices irrelevant.

It would make elections moot. If passed, America might as well go to a system where liberals simply appointed each other to various roles and seats.

The effect on free speech in America will be chilling.

The overall effect of H.R. 1 will be to alter the nature of our representative republic and normalize political control of American by just one side. The Left.

American Constitutional Rights Union Action has prepared this fact sheet to help identify the most dangerous and unconstitutional aspects of this bill that nationalizes election procedures and puts harsh limits on speech. It will take all patriotic Americans to fight this legislation, and we hope this equips you for success on the field of ideas.

## SEC. 7001. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR FEDERAL JUDGES.

PLACES INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY UNDER CONGRESSIONAL CONTROL

H.R. 1 allows Congressional judiciary committees to impose a “code of conduct” for federal judges include imposing “Supreme Court Ethics.” It would essentially transform our three branches of government into two.

## SEC. 1302. PROHIBITION ON DECEPTIVE PRACTICES IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

CODIFIES NATIONAL MAIL IN VOTING

Although the Constitution very clearly leaves the method and procedures of elections up to the states, H.R. 1 usurps that lawful power and essentially nationalizes election procedures and put them under control of Congress. A federal system of mail in-voting—regardless of states’ laws and regulations—would be put into place.

## SEC. 307. PROMOTING ABILITY OF VOTERS TO VOTE BY MAIL.

LEGALIZES BALLOT HARVESTING

H.R. 1 specifies that a voter “shall permit any person” to deliver their ballot, with no limits on the number of ballots any one person can collect. This means any person known or unknown to the voter and will only increase the numbers of fraudulent votes from seniors who are already targeted by vote fraudsters and any American who received a mailed ballot but is deceased or has recently moved.

The bill claims voter ID laws are discriminatory and calls for any state law that requires ID to be overridden by Congress.

## SEC. 1403. RIGHTS OF CITIZENS.

ALLOWS FELONS TO VOTE

H.R. 1 gives voting rights to felons as long as they aren’t in jail on election day. This includes felons with records and convicted criminals on parole or probation. The bill overrides state provisions in regard to felons voting and includes pandering racial discrimination language.

## SEC. 6A. INTERNET REGISTRATION

PERMITS NATIONAL ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE PROGRAM

H.R. 1 allows electronic signatures to be used on all ballot applications. If no electronic signature is on file, then individuals requesting the ballot must “attest” it is their signature by

simply stating that it is their signature. The bill does not contain any real checks on signature validity.

### SEC. 304. SAME DAY REGISTRATION.

DEMANDS STATES ALLOW SAME DAY REGISTRATION AND VOTING

H.R. 1 proscribes that all states allow any “eligible individual” (no definition included) to register to vote and cast a ballot on the same day, whether early voting or on election day. No identification is required.

### SEC. 2201. FINDINGS RELATING TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATEHOOD.

CALLS FOR MAKING WASHINGTON DC A STATE

H.R. 1 calls to overturn the original intent of the federal capitol district and reclassify Washington DC as a state.

### SEC. 2401. REQUIRING CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING TO BE CONDUCTED THROUGH PLAN OF INDEPENDENT STATE COMMISSION.

OVERTURN CONSTITUTIONAL REDISTRICTING REQUIREMENTS

H.R. 1 demands states create “redistricting commissions” that disallow the participation of anyone who has ever served as an elected official, clearly a violation of individual rights. It does require racial, ethnic, economic, and gender diversity appointments.

### SEC. 1094. ACCEPTANCE OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

STATES MUST ACCEPT VOTER REGISTRATION FROM PERSONS UNDER 16

H.R. 1 requires allow minors to register to vote as a “pre-registration.” This is a precursor to providing minors between 16 to 18 to be able to vote.

### SEC. 1302. PROHIBITION ON DECEPTIVE PRACTICES IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

BANS CITIZENS FROM MAKING “FALSE STATEMENTS” ABOUT ELECTIONS

H.R. 1 criminalizes and creates a map for civil action for any citizens who makes a “false statement” about an election or a candidate. Does not specify who will determine what is false, nor does it defend American’s free speech rights to provide opinions that now may be deemed as “false.”

### SEC. 324. DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN-RELATED DISBURSEMENTS BY COVERED ORGANIZATIONS.

IMPOSES RESTRICTIONS AND COSTLY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ON NON-PROFITS

H.R. 1 would require any non-profit speaking about a candidate’s policy position to now file reports with the Federal Election Commission. The bill creates a new phrase of controlled speech “PASO” - promote, attack, support, oppose. If a non-profit makes any statement about public policy, for example healthcare reform, taxation or protecting the unborn — it

now has a costly compliance burden imposed on it for participating in the marketplace of ideas.

H.R. 1 calls for regulation of Internet or social media posts if there is any financial transaction involved. This includes paying staff or consultants for making social media posts.

H.R. 1 would remove current privacy protections from non-profit donors, requiring groups to file an FEC report for any donor giving more than \$10,000.

H.R. 1 classifies any non-profit and its donors as subject to “campaign-related disbursement” regulations whether its advocacy of a particular public policy issue was related to a political candidate or not.

H.R. 1 classified public acknowledgement of a policy stance as a “campaign-related disbursement. If a group posted “thank you, Congressman XYZ for supporting Second Amendment rights” on its website, a series of costly reporting rules would be triggered.

#### SEC. 4205. EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF PUBLIC COMMUNICATION. THE REGULATION OF ARBITRARILY DETERMINED “HONEST ADS”

H.R. 1 classifies communication on policy as “electioneering communication” and as such, imposes speech restrictions on statements or ads not related to elections or a particular candidate.

Filing requirements would demand the head of any organization running an Internet or social media ad on policy, or naming a candidate or official in any way, would have to publicly reveal the name of the president or executive of the organization, and his or her address and contact information.

#### CONCLUSION

H.R. 1 will damage the nation at large and every individual citizen. It is an amalgam of dangerous legislation that liberal politicians have tried to pass piecemeal for years.

It hides its dark and oppressive intent behind works like “Honest Ads, “ethics,” “clean elections” and “disclosure” when by its very nature it creates unnecessary and unlawful restrictions on the rights or speech and assembly, and places organizational executives and donors at personal and physical risk. It vilifies constitutionally protected paid speech by alluding to it as “dark money.”

It’s doctrine on “PASO” — promote, attack, support or oppose — is chilling in its similarity to totalitarian systems imposed on people around the world under socialism, fascism and communism.

H.R. 1 federalizes the election process and its provisions for unverifiable ballot requests and voting will make the security and integrity of an individual’s vote a thing of the past.

H.R. 1 suppresses the type of speech most robustly defended and upheld by the nation’s judiciary - the right to public expression.

H.R. 1 tries to suppress the exchange of ideas and information presented to the public by non-profit groups and advocacy organizations.

H.R. 1 tries to nullify states' rights granted to all states by the Constitution by micromanaging and federalizing every aspect of voting and political communication. It makes it far easier for the federal ruling class to control citizens in every state, as it is far easier that win won battle in an arena you control than to fight 50 separate wars.

Conservative non-profits engage in the battle for ideas. We present information and data that protect and advocacy for economic and individual liberty. Organizations on the left present not objective arguments but use the politics of personal destruction and false accusations of racism and sexism to persuade their followers and intimidate and silence their free-market, pro-Constitution opponents.

H.R. 1 is a social justice document full of Congressional “findings” that list myriad grievances, documented and undocumented as a ruse to push through the more egregious provisions in the bill.

H.R. 1 is the dream legislation of the left. It oppresses, suppresses, and deflects. It contains reporting and financial burdens on speech that can have no other effect than limiting it, and the voices of everyday Americans. Wealthy Hollywood activists and left-leaning billionaire oligarchs will retain their free soap boxes.

It cynically ties the individual right of every American to free and anonymous speech — paid or unpaid — to inherent “corruption.” Yet, since the days of Thomas Paine’s “Common Sense” and Benjamin Franklin’s pamphlets on liberty, utilizing every avenue to promote speech necessarily involves an economic transaction, about which there is no inherent evil.

Many Americans do not have enough financial resources to fund their own opinion campaigns. But they can send donations to organizations that support and advocate for their beliefs. Under H.R. 1, the voices of these hardworking Americans will be diminished, and they will run the risk of public ridicule and even intimidation.

It should be the goal of every private citizen, elected official and issue advocate to increase the freedom of speech of their fellow American, not curtail it. Every American regardless of income, employment sector or opinion should be able to participate in the marketplace of ideas and come to their own conclusions.

We must not let the Left win. We must not give the Swamp this power.

If passed, America may never recover from H.R. 1.