



January 18, 2022

Dear Senator,

I write to advise you that Susan B. Anthony List, on behalf of our more than 900,000 members from all 50 states, strongly opposes House Amendment to Senate Amendment to H.R. 5746. This combination of various partisan “voting rights” bills (including the deceptively named Freedom to Vote Act, S. 2747, and John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, H.R. 4) along with some new, sweeping language, presents a grave danger to fair, secure, and transparent elections that Americans—specifically pro-life Americans—can trust.

The Freedom to Vote (aka “Freedom to Cheat”) Act attempts the same egregious federal takeover as did S. 1 and S. 2093, undermining commonsense voter protections and election safeguards enacted by many states, while imposing unnecessary and unworkable mandates, and making it nearly impossible to detect fraud. It would effectively abolish voter I.D. laws, mandate unsecure and unverifiable absentee voting practices, and dramatically alter First Amendment protections by imposing onerous and unworkable regulatory standards on the ability of pro-life voters and the pro-life community to discuss policy issues with elected officials and the public. It would subject citizens who contribute to nonprofit organizations to harassment and intimidation by making their personal information available in a government-controlled database, and subject virtually all issue-related ads to burdensome disclaimer requirements even if unrelated to a candidate for elected office.

The “John Lewis” bill would similarly impose a federal takeover of elections and apply radical, authoritarian requirements on the states, effectively eliminating commonsense, popular measures such as voter I.D., while encouraging spurious litigation from activist groups that would trigger mandatory reviews based on a facially partisan framework. This attempts to sidestep the Supreme Court’s 2013 ruling in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which held the preclearance provision in the Voting Rights Act of 1965 as applied to particular states of concern to be unconstitutional. It would also require any state seeking to update, reform, or modernize its election laws—even just to move a polling place from a school’s cafeteria down the hall to the gym—to submit its proposal for review by unelected federal bureaucrats at the Department of Justice, subject to verified left-wing political bias.

Free, fair, and transparent elections are fundamental to the ability of principled Americans to enact change. Susan B. Anthony List exists to elect pro-life lawmakers and to enact pro-life policies and laws. Because H.R. 5746 targets our mission and the cause for which pro-life Americans care so deeply, Susan B. Anthony List strongly opposes and will score against H.R. 5746.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marjorie Dannenfelser".

Marjorie Dannenfelser
President
Susan B. Anthony List