



2026 VOTER PROTECTION

P.O.W.E.R. VOTER REGISTRATION AND PROTECTION TOOLKIT

A NEW URGENCY

On April 29, 2026, the U.S. Supreme Court executed a devastating blow to the Voting Rights Act and an outright attack on the fundamental freedoms of working people when it decided the Callais decision. The decision strips Black and Latino voters in Louisiana of having a fair say in their elected representatives, and will be used to further hollow out Americans' voting rights across the country.

This ruling came out of a blatant campaign to undermine civil rights law and policy and return the country to days before social progress required racial equality. As Justice Elena Kagan wrote in her dissent, "The Voting Rights Act is – or, now more accurately, was – one of the most consequential, efficacious, and amply justified exercises of federal legislative power in our Nation's history. It was born of the literal blood of Union soldiers and civil rights marchers."

ABOUT THIS TOOLKIT

This toolkit is a first step in fighting back against those who are attacking our right to vote. We will continue to update our resources, sharpen our strategies, and expand our coalitions and tools over the 2026 election cycle. But time is wasting, and we need to start moving forward.

We know that as we approach this pivotal election, the stakes have never been higher. This is a defining moment when working people will play a crucial role in shaping the future of our nation and decide whether we will take this attack lying down or rise up together. Your vote is instrumental in electing leaders who will champion the interests of workers and drive forward a vision for a more equitable and just society.

This document has 3 parts:

- How to Take Action
- Learn more about what challenges are ahead
- Find training opportunities and local events

TAKE ACTION

- **Check Your Registration Status**

Visit https://app.ballotready.org/check_registration to check your registration and make sure you're up to date.

- **If you are not Registered to Vote, Register Now**

We will link to a one-stop shop website where you can view and track rule changes across the country and register to vote when it is available in July. Right now, to find your State Election rules and register through the official website here:

https://app.ballotready.org/check_registration

- **Make sure your friends, family, and union siblings are also registered and still able to vote**

Share those websites with your friends and family. Share these websites at your next union meeting. Put them on your social media feeds. Ensuring that we can cast our vote at the next election is an important first step.

TAKE THE P.O.W.E.R. PLEDGE TO STAND UP FOR DEMOCRACY

We stand together in the proud tradition of those who fought to secure the right to vote, knowing that democracy is strongest when every voice is heard and every ballot counted.

As members of the labor movement, we commit to taking action:

Protect: Protecting the vote and ensuring every member can safely cast their ballot.

Organize: Organize new labor strongholds led by workers.

Win: Win crucial races that determine the future of workers' rights.

Engage: Engage our baseline through authentic peer-to-peer contact.

Right Now: Mobilize Right Now. Action today creates victory tomorrow.

With determination and solidarity, we commit to building a future where working people can elect officials who truly represent their communities, where participation is empowered, and where democracy reflects the will of the people.

[Sign the P.O.W.E.R. Pledge NOW](#)

Share the P.O.W.E.R. Pledge with 15 of your friends! Here's some help to get you started:

- **Text Message:**

“Hey! I just took the first step to protecting voting rights for union members and our communities by signing the P.O.W.E.R. Pledge. Can I count on you to join me and sign too? Go here: <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/powerpledge>”

- **Email Message:**

“Hey! I could use your help. I just took the first step to protecting voting rights for union members and our communities by signing the P.O.W.E.R. Pledge.

The P.O.W.E.R. Pledge is a commitment to Protect our right to vote and ensure every worker can safely cast their ballot, Organize new labor, Win crucial races that determine our future and our rights, Engage our community through peer-to-peer conversations, and mobilize Right Now.

With your commitment, we can continue to protect our rights, our voting power, and ensure that elected officials work for us and represent us, because we know our union and community best.

So will you take 30 seconds to sign the pledge and keep fighting with me?
Commit here: <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/powerpledge>”

LEARN MORE ABOUT KEY 2026 VOTER ACCESS RESOURCES & ISSUES

[You Still Have VOTING Rights](#)

There are still protections for voters. Learn more about them here.

[Restoration of Voting Rights](#)

Many people wonder, "Can I vote with a felony conviction?" and assume the laws have restricted their rights. But many people with past felony convictions can vote, depending on their state.

[Power the Polls](#)

Sign up to become a Poll Worker for the 2026 elections in your community. Our elections depend on ordinary people who make sure voting runs smoothly and everyone's vote is count—people like YOU.

[Protecting the Vote - 866-OUR-VOTE](#)

Through our partnership with the Election Protection hotline the AFL-CIO is a partner in this coalition that works year-round to ensure that all voters have an equal opportunity to vote and have that vote count.

[Voting Resources for Young People](#)

Rock the Vote is a nonpartisan nonprofit dedicated to building the political power of young people.

For over 30 years, Rock the Vote has revolutionized the use of pop culture, music, art, and technology to engage young people in politics and build our collective power.

[Callais and Legal Challenges](#)

This is an explainer of the history of the Voting Rights Act, the attacks on that act, and the redistricting challenges that have occurred and will occur as a result of the Supreme Court's actions.

TRAINING

The AFL-CIO offers virtual training on multiple issues, including election protection and other political topics. Our current election protection training sessions include training on election deepfakes and AI, the importance of voting, and, coming soon, our lessons learned from our Nonviolent Civil Resistance experience expanded to include protecting the polls.

You can find those trainings here

<https://www.mobilize.us/aflciotraining/>

LOCAL ACTIONS

Our State Federations and Central Labor Councils lead the way in their communities in protecting access to polling places, registering voters, and helping their neighbors reach their regular polling sites. [Find an event near YOU!](#)

To meet up with your neighbors across the labor movement, find them here:

[AFL-CIO State and Local Federations.](#)