

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

SENATE

RESOLUTION 9

By: Treat

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution urging the United States Senate to exercise due consideration of constitutional deficiencies and policy critiques of the For the People Act of 2021; urging the United States Senate to defend election integrity and promote voter confidence in the electoral system by withholding support for the For the People Act of 2021; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, H.R. 1, the "For the People Act of 2021", is an effort to federalize the election process in the states and to impose unconstitutional and burdensome mandates on state and local election officials, and has passed the United States House of Representatives and is currently before the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1 attempts to regulate the election of President and Vice-President of the United States, and therefore violates the Electors Clause of Article II of the United States Constitution which expressly grants the authority to individual states to determine the manner of appointment of the state's allotment of presidential electors; and

1 WHEREAS, although the United States Constitution limits the role
2 of Congress with respect to regulation of congressional elections to
3 acting as a check on state legislatures, H.R. 1 represents an
4 overreach of congressional authority by the attempt to seize
5 principal regulatory authority over congressional elections in the
6 states by overriding state voter identification laws and by imposing
7 mandates related to absentee voting and voter registration; and

8 WHEREAS, despite the enactment in thirty-five states of statutes
9 requiring some form of documentary personal identification for the
10 exercise of voting rights, H.R. 1 impairs protections that voter
11 identification requirements provide against interference with voting
12 rights by dismantling meaningful voter ID laws to allow a statement
13 instead of a previously issued document-supported form of
14 identification to ensure that voters are eligible to vote in an
15 election; and

16 WHEREAS, H.R. 1 increases the potential for voter fraud by
17 mandating nationwide automatic voter registration and Election Day
18 voter registration, which would enable non-citizens and other
19 persons ineligible to vote to cast fraudulent ballots before
20 precautionary measures can be taken by election officials; and

21 WHEREAS, state and county election boards ensure election
22 integrity with the maintenance of voter registration rolls by the
23 routine removal of the registrations of citizens who have not voted
24 in multiple consecutive elections and who fail to respond to

1 numerous efforts to confirm residency. H.R. 1 attacks reliable
2 methods of maintenance of voter rolls by prohibiting the use of
3 voter inactivity and lack of response to remove invalid voter
4 registrations without authorizing reasonable and reliable
5 alternatives; and

6 WHEREAS, H.R. 1 removes accountability from the process of
7 congressional redistricting by mandating the drawing of new boundary
8 lines by "independent commissions" instead of state legislatures,
9 thus eliminating the ability of the people to hold the decision-
10 makers accountable in upcoming elections.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
12 OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

13 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges Members of the United
14 States Senate to exercise due consideration of the constitutional
15 deficiencies contained in H.R. 1 and any companion legislation in
16 the United States Senate and the critiques by state and local
17 election officials of the policies of election administration
18 included in the legislation.

19 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges Members of the United
20 States Senate to defend the integrity of elections in this country
21 and promote voter confidence in the electoral system by withholding
22 support for H.R. 1 and any companion legislation in the United
23 States Senate.

1 THAT a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
2 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, the
3 Majority Leader of the Senate of the United States, the Minority
4 Leader of the House of Representatives of the United States, the
5 Minority Leader of the Senate of the United States and to the
6 Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

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