

July 26, 2021

Four Directions Native Vote continues to urge our congressional leaders to act immediately to pass the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to protect the rights and freedoms of Native voters. Four Directions is also joining forces with Fair Fight Action to pass these two crucial pieces of legislation. In addition, Four Directions continues to urge Congress to pass the Native American Voting Rights Act of 2019.

Right now, Native voters are under attack not only in states across the country, but by the Supreme Court. The reason our community is being targeted is because we have been successful, and because our power is getting recognized after historic turnout in 2020. "This fight will make us stronger. We will not allow our voices to be diminished, and will not stand by while attacks on our right to vote seek to silence us and silence the power of our communities. Four Directions is proud to work with Fair Fight Action to demand our Senators take action to pass federal protections for Native voters," said Four Directions Co-Executive Director OJ Semans.

"Native voters are facing renewed attacks on their freedom to vote, and it is imperative that Congress act to protect the freedom to vote for Native communities and ensure the right to vote for all eligible Americans. Congress must urgently pass the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to protect the voting rights of Native communities in states across the country," said Fair Fight Action founder Stacey Abrams.

In states such as Alaska, Arizona, and Montana, Native voters have proven time and again to be a key component of any path to victory - and now, our communities are demanding that our Senators take action to protect our voting rights. In the four majority Native counties in Montana, Senator Tester has received 60-66% of the vote in each of his campaigns. In Arizona, without Apache County voters, the Navajo Nation, and Native communities across the state of Arizona, Biden would not have won the state. Native voters also contributed a significant edge to US Senator Mark Kelly in his Senate win and to Democrats up and down the ticket. In Alaska, the Native Alaskan community, making up around 15% of Alaska's residents, has also been a key part of Lisa Murkowski's victories. In 2010, when Murkowski won the state by just 10,252 votes, the only state house districts she received a majority of the vote in were also majority Native Alaskan. Native voters have repeatedly shown up for our Senators and Representatives, and now we are demanding our Senators show up for us to protect our voting rights.

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