Election Protection: Now More Than Ever

In 2012 it is more vital than ever that we educate and empower voters to ensure they are able to cast a ballot this November. Since the 2010 elections we have seen an increase of disenfranchising legislation masked as an attempt to prevent non-existent voter fraud. These voter suppression laws—proof of citizenship, stringent photo identification laws, restrictions on community-based registration drives, and reducing early voting—have the potential to disenfranchise an estimated 5 million voters this fall according to a October 2011 Brennan Center study.

It’s not just states where laws have changed where we need to be vigilant. These changes, and the national debate that surrounded them, will only increase existing voter and poll worker confusion around election rules and regulations. In addition, we can expect deceptive election practices like flyers or robocalls disseminating incorrect information like the wrong election date aimed at misleading voters and preventing them from casting a ballot. We may also face new efforts to remove eligible voters from the rolls and challengers at the polls.

While the challenges we face might be steep, we know what needs to be done. It will take people committed to democracy and its core ideals to fight these laws and protect our right to vote. We need to educate voters about the new laws and empower them to take the steps to ensure they are prepared to vote in November. Election Protection—the nation’s largest non-partisan voter assistance coalition—has legal leadership in 20 states coordinating efforts to respond to problems facing voters. In addition, the Election Protection Hotlines, 1-866-OUR-VOTE and 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA serve as vital resources for voters with questions or problems voting, no matter how simple or complex, from now through Election Day.

You are the key to a successful Election Protection program this year and there are many ways you can get engaged in your community.

How You Can Help:

- Verify registration status of your friends and family
- Learn changes to election law and educate voters
- Help people obtain voter ID in states where it is required
- Promote the 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA hotlines
- Get connected to Election Protection efforts in your state
- Sign up to be a poll worker or poll monitor

If you are interested in learning more about ways to get involved or Election Protection efforts in your community email info@866OurVote.org. Check out additional resources on the back of this sheet.

Sign up at www.866OurVote.org to keep up to date on the latest Election Protection news!
Resources for Empowering Voters and Combatting Voter Suppression

IDstories.866OurVote.org

Think getting “free” ID is easy? Think again.

OrganizerTools.866OurVote.org

Resources to help you empower and educate voters.

MapOfShame.org

Find out about voting laws that impact your right to vote.

GotID.LawyersCommittee.org

Guide to empower community groups to help voters get ID.

Election Protection Smartphone App!

Check your registration status, find your polling place, and much more!

VoterIDToolkits.866OurVote.org

Find out how to get photo ID in states where it is required!

Text OURVOTE to 90975 to download

Find out more information at 866OurVote.Org

Have questions about voting?
Call 1-866-OUR-VOTE

@866OurVote

Facebook.com/866OurVote