

Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 9

By: Treat, Hamilton, Bergstrom,
Jett and Stephens

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, state and county election boards ensure election integrity with the maintenance of voter registration rolls by the routine removal of the registrations of citizens who have not voted in multiple consecutive elections and who fail to respond to numerous efforts to confirm residency. H.R. 1 attacks reliable methods of maintenance of voter rolls by prohibiting the use of voter inactivity and lack of response to remove invalid voter registrations without authorizing reasonable and reliable alternatives; and

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

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

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

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

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

Adopted by the Senate the 15th day of March, 2021.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____
day of _____, 20 _____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.
By: _____