



For Immediate Release: July 13, 2021

Contact: Colleen Ross, cross@networklobby.org, 202-601-7877

Faith Community Urges Bold Leadership to Pass Democracy Reforms

Sr. Quincy Howard, OP: "The faith community calls on President Biden to show bold leadership to save our democracy."

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, President Biden delivered a much anticipated speech on protecting voting rights against an unprecedented onslaught of restrictive state bills across the country. This year, voter suppression bills have been introduced and enacted in starkly partisan fashion by Republican state legislatures and governors.

The For the People Act (S.1), a comprehensive reform bill filibustered by Republican Senators last month, includes reforms that would override most of the restrictive state laws and address some of the most problematic aspects of our democracy: gerrymandering, money in politics, ethics, and more.

Faithful Democracy partners will continue pressing Congress to pass S.1 by a simple majority vote. President Biden has an obligation to lead the Democratic Caucus in setting a viable path to passage, bypassing the filibuster rule in the process.

Sister Quincy Howard, OP, Coordinating Director, Faithful Democracy Coalition said:

"While we appreciate President Biden's strong words supporting the sacred right to vote and his well-intended commitment to hear the concerns of leading Civil Rights leaders, it is time for action, not listening sessions.

"The daily damage done to our democracy by Republican legislators, governors, and most recently by Supreme Court decisions is untenable and requires a clear and tangible response. Continued denunciations will not protect our democracy; we need legislative solutions.

"Words of concern from the bully pulpit need to focus on backing a coherent legislative response. We call President Biden to confront the filibuster head-on with a full acknowledgement of its racist history and a call for Democratic Leadership in the Senate to do whatever is necessary to pass S.1."

###

[The Faithful Democracy Coalition](#) is an interfaith coalition of national and state-based congregations and faith-based organizations that educate and advocate for federal reforms that protect and strengthen our democracy.