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### **National Interfaith Coalition Urges Senate to Pass the For the People Act**

*Sr. Quincy Howard: "It is time for President Biden and others in the Senate to acknowledge that Republicans have forfeited their place as good faith partners in protecting our democracy."*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Senate Democrats attempted to begin debate on the For The People Act (S.1) for the second time this summer. They also attempted debate on two freestanding, wildly popular provisions from the package: the DISCLOSE Act to shed light on dark money in politics and a ban on partisan gerrymandering. Each of these transformative bills would make our democracy more faithful to democratic ideals and more truly representative of all people.

Senate Republicans unilaterally blocked a public floor debate on all three measures which would override most newly-passed anti-voter state laws and protect some of the most threatened aspects of our democratic systems. With these filibusters, Senate Republicans have again demonstrated that they cannot be trusted to protect our democratic institutions from the multi-pronged attacks underway.

Faithful Democracy and our coalition partners representing millions of Americans of faith will continue pressing for passage of S.1 as the bold and comprehensive bill that is desperately needed. With Senate Republicans' continued refusal to debate the legislation, Leader Schumer and President Biden must pave a path to passing the legislation by simple majority.

Faith-based organizations and congregations urge Senators to take this bill up as a first priority in September and to unite in good faith to pass S.1. Senate Democrats and President Biden cannot let procedural rules block policies which protect our sacred freedom to vote and safeguard fair elections.

#### **Sister Quincy Howard, OP, Coordinating Director, Faithful Democracy Coalition:**

"Our faith partners have visited Senate offices on both sides of the aisle to advocate support for the For the People Act. Republican Senators have shown little interest in its reforms and no urgency around its protections. In the meantime, Republicans advance laws through State legislatures which undermine democratic institutions and restrict the freedom to vote, particularly in historically excluded Black and Brown communities.

It is time for President Biden and others in the Senate to acknowledge--as we have reluctantly done--that Republicans have forfeited their place as good faith partners in protecting our democracy. Our Democratic leaders, beginning with the President, must exercise their majority, taking the necessary steps to contend with the filibuster rule in order to pass the For the People Act in September."

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*[The Faithful Democracy Coalition](#) is a non-partisan interfaith coalition of national and state-based congregations and faith-based organizations. We work together to advocate for federal reforms and to educate people of faith about the moral call to protect and strengthen our democracy.*