

# Operation Wildfire: Good Things Happen When YOU Vote

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## SENATE FILIBUSTER & THE FREEDOM TO VOTE ACT

Last Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed two bills, now combined into one, titled "Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act." An unrelated NASA bill was used as a legislative vehicle to fast-track consideration of the measure in the U.S. Senate. Because the NASA bill has already been considered by both chambers, it proceeded to debate with a simple majority instead of the usual 60 votes required to advance to debate.

But despite some creative procedural workarounds, 60 votes are still required to end debate, meaning the legislation will almost certainly get blocked again. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer promises to hold a vote to change the U.S. Senate's filibuster rule to pass this legislation. That vote is scheduled to occur tomorrow (Wednesday, January 19, 2022).

### So what is the Filibuster?

The filibuster is a 19th-century procedural rule in the U.S. Senate that allows any one senator to block or delay action on a bill or other matter by extending debate.

While a final vote in the Senate requires a simple majority of 51 votes, a supermajority, or 60 votes, is needed to start or end debate on legislation so it can proceed to a final vote. So, even if a party has a slim majority in the Senate, it still needs a supermajority to even move forward with legislation, a tough task for a hyper-partisan Washington.

For decades, both senators and citizens have taken for granted that everybody gets a voice even when they don't have a divided government. But if this unique feature of the U.S. Senate is blown up, millions and millions of American voices will cease to be heard.

### What is the Freedom to Vote Act?

The Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act (aka Freedom to Cheat Act) includes many of the worst provisions of H.R. 1 while throwing in a few attempts at "compromise." The only thing it really compromises is election integrity.

If you watch C-SPAN 2 today and tomorrow, you'll hear Senators claim that this legislation upholds America's voting rights. The mainstream media will spin the same web. Make no mistake: This bill seizes power from the states and federalizes the election process. It opens the flood gates to fraud. Here's a few highlights:

- Implement Online Voter Registration
- Implement Automatic Voter Registration
- Establish Same-Day Registration (just show up at the polls, register and vote)
- Implement No Excuse Vote by Mail (without verification of the voter)
- Accept Ballots Postmarked or Dated by the Voter by Election Day
- Use Ballot Drop Boxes for Mail Ballots without Security Mandates
- Restrict the Ability of Poll Watchers

And that's only snapshot. This legislation, if passed, will also impact redistricting, stripping the states of their Constitutional rights. Read the full text here: <https://www.congress.gov/.../117th-congress/senate-bill/2747>

Then contact your U.S. Senators and ask them to vote "NO":

U.S. Senator Pat Toomey

Email: <https://www.toomey.senate.gov/contact/email-senator-toomey>

Telephone: 814-266-5970 or 202-224-4254

U.S. Senator Bob Casey

Email: <https://www.casey.senate.gov/contact/share>

Telephone: 814-357-0314 or 202-224-6324