

Letter to the Editor

NAACP Oconee County Branch*

Date: October 28, 2025

Protecting the Freedom to Vote for All Americans

Dear Editor,

The right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy, yet it continues to be threatened by policies and practices that disproportionately impact communities of color. At the NAACP, we believe that every eligible American citizen deserves fair and equal access to the ballot box without obstruction, intimidation, or discrimination.

In recent years across this great nation, we've seen a troubling rise in voter suppression tactics such as: unnecessary ID laws, polling place closures, voter roll purges, and limits on early and mail-in voting. Even though the impact of most of these issues is less evident in Oconee County, if left unchecked they will become more prominent. There are forces at work in our county right now that aim to implement these discriminatory practices. These tactics are not just bureaucratic hurdles; they are deliberate attempts to silence voices that have long fought to be heard.

We urge local, state, and federal leaders to take action by the following: keep and champion access to early voting, ensure polling locations are equitably distributed, and pass comprehensive voting rights legislation such as the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. We also call on everyday citizens to register to vote if you are not registered and educate yourself on the position of the candidates in all upcoming elections. Two sources of voter education resources are: www.vote411.org and scvotes.gov. After educating yourself on a candidates position, you must then cast your vote on election day. The only reason your vote doesn't matter is if you don't cast it.

Our democracy is strongest when everyone has a voice. The NAACP Oconee County Branch will continue to fight to ensure this right is protected for every citizen of this county, state, and nation, in every election.

Sincerely,
Mr. George Anderson, Jr.
President, NAACP Oconee County Branch

*The NAACP is a non-partisan organization and has no political party affiliation nor does it endorse political candidates.