

# The U.S. Chamber Has A Long History Of Backing Voter Suppression And Gerrymandering Efforts Across The Country

**SUMMARY:** Amid a [nationwide wave](#) of voter suppression efforts, the U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, the “[world’s largest business organization](#),” has shown “[fierce](#)” opposition to urgently-needed voting rights reforms in H.R. 1, the For the People Act. The U.S. Chamber has called the bill “[extremely problematic](#)” and has complained that it would [silence](#) corporations and industry associations. Meanwhile, major Chamber members that have claimed opposition to voting suppression—including Ford, Target, Google, and many others—have faced calls to [sever](#) their ties with the group.

However, the Chamber’s problematic stance on voting rights is not new. The group led opposition to the [first version](#) of the For the People Act introduced in 2019 and lobbied on the bill in eight consecutive quarters since mid-2019—a period during which the Chamber spent over \$129 million to influence federal policymakers.

Beyond the U.S. Chamber’s opposition to the For the People Act, the group’s efforts to aid and abet voter suppression across the country have had a widespread impact. The Chamber has poured over \$7.4 million into the Republican State Leadership Committee (RLSC), emerging as one of the group’s top two funders during the 2016 and 2018 election cycles. The RLSC has [attacked](#) a judge who struck down an Arkansas Voter ID law and in 2021 launched a so-called “[voter integrity](#)” commission that has been [panned](#) as a coordinated voter suppression effort. The Commission has called for a variety of measures that experts say will have the effect of disproportionately harming voters of color

And, as far back as 2010, the U.S. Chamber “[hatched](#)” and [funded](#) a conservative-led redistricting project known as REDMAP, which [targeted](#) 107 state legislative races in 16 states and was [condemned](#) by voting rights advocates as having “cracked, stacked, packed and bleached Black voters” to reduce their political representation.

Additionally, the [lead attorney](#) for Shelby County in the Supreme Court’s landmark decision to [weaken](#) the Voting Rights Act in *Shelby v. Holder* – Bert Rein— is a [current director](#) for the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center, and his firm has filed a Supreme Court amicus on behalf of the Chamber as recently as [March 2021](#). Underlining the long-term impact of Rein’s work in the *Shelby* case, Brookings Institution contributors have argued that the wave of 2021 voter suppression bills across the country are “[the aftermath](#)” of the *Shelby v. Holder* decision.

The Chamber has also spent at least \$96,000 to directly back prominent opponents of voting rights reform, including:

- **\$16,000 To Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA)**, Who [Single-Handedly](#) Blocked Critical Voting Rights Legislation In The U.S. House.
- **\$15,000 To House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)**, Who [Undermined](#) Voting Access Measures And Voting Rights Legislation, [Calling](#) It “Disgusting” And “Unnecessary.”
- **\$15,000 To Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)**, Who [Backed](#) Voter Suppression Efforts And Joked That Laws That Made It Harder For Students To Vote Were “[A Great Idea](#).”
- **Over \$5,000 To Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)**, Who [Claimed](#) The For The People Act Would Keep “Democrats In Power For 100 Years” and [Perpetuated](#) “Unsubstantiated Allegations Of Voter Fraud.”
- **\$4,500 To Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX)**, Who [Undermined](#) The 2020 Election Results And [Spread Doubt](#) About Voting Systems And Laws.

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Has Shown “Fierce” Opposition To “Sweeping” Voting Rights Bill *The For The People Act Of 2021*, Spurring Calls For Major Corporations To Cut Their Ties With The Group After They Opposed Nationwide Voter Suppression Efforts.**

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce, The “World’s Largest Business Organization,” Expressed “Fierce” Opposition To The For The People Act Of 2021, A “Sweeping” Anti-Voting Suppression Bill That The Group Claimed Would Silence Corporations And Trade Associations.**

**April 2021: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Expressed “Fierce Opposition” To The For The People Act, An Anti-Voting Suppression Bill Passed In The U.S. House Of Representatives That The Chamber Called “Extremely Problematic.”** “At issue is the Chamber of Commerce's fierce opposition to the Democrats' sweeping voting bill known as the For the People Act, which advocates say would counter efforts by Georgia and other states to impose new voting restrictions. The Chamber of Commerce has slammed the legislation, which last month was approved by the US House of Representatives, as 'extremely problematic' in part because of new curbs on political advocacy by companies and associations.” [CNN, [04/21/21](#)]

- **H.R. 1, The For The People Act of 2021, Was Introduced By Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD) In The 117th Congress On January 4, 2021 And Passed The House On March 3, 2021 By A Vote Of 220-210.** [Congress.gov, [01/04/21](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Issued A Key Vote Alert Against The For The People Act’s Senate Companion, S.1.** [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, [04/13/21](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Claimed H.R. 1 Would “Silence” Those Who “Participate In The Political Process Through The Collective Action Of An Association Or Corporation.”** “The U.S. Chamber of Commerce said it wants more people brought into the political process but that the bill would have “precisely the opposite effect – pushing certain voices, representing large segments of the electorate and U.S. economy, out of the political process altogether.’ The Chamber, in a letter to senators, said the legislation would ‘regulate and ultimately silence Americans who choose to petition their government or participate in the political process through the collective action of an association or corporation.’” [Reuters, [04/13/21](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Said It Would Factor Lawmakers’ Votes On H.R. 1 In Its Annual Scorecard.** “Last week, the Chamber of Commerce sent a ‘key vote alert’ to senators to detailing why it ‘strongly opposes’ the For the People Act and warning that it could include votes related to the bill in its annual scorecard.” [CNN, [04/21/21](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Is “One Of The Most Powerful Trade Groups In The Nation,” Spending \$81.9 Million To Influence Government In 2020 Alone, Second Only To The National Association Of Realtors.** “The Chamber is one of the most powerful trade groups in the nation. In 2020 alone, the organization spent \$81.9 million trying to influence government policy, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. The only organization that spent more was the National Association of Realtors.” [CNN, [04/21/21](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce “Is The World’s Largest Business Organization,” With Membership That Includes “Leading Industry Associations And Large Corporations.”** “The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world’s largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy. Our members range from the small businesses and local chambers of commerce that line the

Main Streets of America to leading industry associations and large corporations.” [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, accessed [04/23/21](#)]

## **Major Companies Including Ford, Target, Google, And Others Faced Calls To Cut Their Ties With The U.S. Chamber Amid “Enormous Pressure” On Corporate America To Follow Through With Its Stated Support For Voting Rights.**

**HEADLINE: Target, Google and others are under pressure to dump the Chamber of Commerce over voting rights** [CNN, [04/21/21](#)]

**Progressive Activists Called On Major Corporations—including Ford, Target, Google, Bank Of America And Others—to End Their Affiliations With The U.S. Chamber.** “Progressive activists are calling on Ford, Target, Google, Bank of America and other major companies that have pledged to support voting rights to cut ties with the US Chamber of Commerce, CNN Business has learned.” [CNN, [04/21/21](#)]

**Corporations Faced “Enormous Pressure” To Follow Through On Their Stated Support Of Voting Rights.** “The campaign from activists underscores the enormous pressure companies are under to follow up their verbal support for voting rights with concrete action.” [CNN, [04/21/21](#)]

## ***The U.S. Chamber Led Opposition To The Previous Version Of *The For The People Act* In 2019.***

### **The U.S. Chamber Led A Coalition Letter Against The Previous Version Of The For The People Act, Which Passed The House 234-193 In 2019.**

**H.R. 1, The For The People Act Of 2019, Was Introduced By Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD) On January 3, 2019 And Passed The House On March 8, 2019 By 234-193.** [Congress.gov, [01/03/19](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Led A Coalition Letter Against The 2019 Version Of H.R. 1, Claiming It Was “Disingenuously Named.”** “We write to express our opposition to H.R. 1, disingenuously named the ‘For the People Act of 2019.’ Although its supporters focus on aspects of the bill that purport to bring more people into the political process, other parts of the legislation are clearly designed to have precisely the opposite effect – pushing certain voices, representing large segments of the electorate and our economy, out of the political process altogether.” [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, [03/05/19](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber’s Primary Complaint Was Against H.R. 1’s Campaign Finance Disclosure Requirements, Claiming They Would “Chill Associational And Speech Rights” For Its Members.** “Over the past several Congresses, various iterations of the legislation known as the DISCLOSE Act have been introduced. The profound constitutional problems of that legislation are well documented and include: (1) that it sought to chill associational and speech rights guaranteed by the First Amendment by threatening donor disclosure for groups engaged in advocacy; (2) that it provided for unequal treatment of speakers, severely burdening the business community while leaving unions largely unaffected; and (3) that it sought to deter speech through the imposition of unnecessarily burdensome disclaimers and reporting requirements. Remarkably, H.R. 1 takes the worst ideas and impulses of the DISCLOSE Act and expands upon them in ways that have incredibly harmful – and unconstitutional – consequences.” [U.S. Chamber of Commerce, [03/05/19](#)]

**The 2019 Version Of H.R.1. Included Provisions To Require All Organizations Involved In Political Activity To Disclose Donors And Expose Political Spending By “Big-Money Contributors And Special Interests.”** “H.R. 1 shines a light on dark money in politics by upgrading online political ad disclosure and requiring all organizations involved in political activity to disclose their large donors. H.R. 1 also breaks the so-called ‘nesting-doll’ sham that allows big-money contributors and special interests to hide the true funding source of their political spending.” [Rep. John Sarbanes, accessed [03/08/19](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Lobbied On Both Versions Of The For The People Act As It Spent Over \$129 Million To Influence Federal Policymakers.**

**The U.S. Chamber Lobbied On The 2019 And 2021 Versions Of The For The People Act As It Spent \$129.24 Million On Lobbying From The Q2 2019 Through The Q1 2021.**

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$12,530,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The Second Quarter Of 2019. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [07/22/19](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$12,260,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The Third Quarter Of 2019. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [10/21/19](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$16,900,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The Fourth Quarter Of 2019. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [01/21/20](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$15,770,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The First Quarter Of 2020. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [04/20/20](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$12,300,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The Second Quarter Of 2020. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [07/20/20](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$20,000,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The Third Quarter Of 2020. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [10/20/20](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$22,290,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2019 And Other Issues In The Fourth Quarter Of 2020. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [01/21/21](#)]

The U.S. Chamber Spent \$17,190,000 Lobbying On H.R. 1, The For the People Act of 2021 And Other Issues In The First Quarter Of 2021. [U.S. Senate Lobbying Disclosure Act Database, [04/20/21](#)]

**The Director Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Litigation Center Was Previously The Lead Attorney In Supreme Court Case *Shelby V. Holder*, Which Weakened The Voting Rights Act And Helped Usher In The Voter Suppression Efforts Emerging In 2021.**

**Attorney Bert Rein Served On The Board Of Directors Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce From 1990 To 1994, And Currently Serves As A Director Of The U.S. Chamber Litigation Center; His Law Firm Has Represented The Chamber In A Supreme Court Amicus Brief As Recently As March 2021.**

Bert Rein Served On The Board Of Directors Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce From 1990 To 1994. [Bert Rein, LinkedIn, accessed [04/23/21](#)]

Bert Rein Served As An Attorney For The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce In Litigation As Recently As 2019. "Megan Brown, Bert Rein, Jeremy Broggi, and Wesley Weeks or Wiley Rein LLP served as co-counsel for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the U.S. Chamber Litigation Center." [U.S. Chamber Litigation Center, [06/20/19](#)]

**As Of 2018, Bert Rein Is A Director Of The U.S. Chamber Litigation Center.** [U.S. Chamber Litigation Center Form 990, [2018](#)]

- **The U.S. Chamber Litigation Center Represents The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce In Lawsuits.** “The U.S. Chamber Litigation Center is the voice of business and free enterprise in the federal and state courts. We represent the Chamber in lawsuits to challenge unlawful federal, state, and local regulatory actions. We intervene to defend the government in cases brought by activists to challenge pro-business or deregulatory actions.” [U.S. Chamber Litigation Center, accessed [04/23/21](#)]
- **The Center’s 2018 Tax Filings Were The Most Recently Available Documents, As Of April 26, 2021.** [ProPublica, accessed [04/26/21](#)]

**The Law Firm Wiley Rein, For Which Bert Rein Is A Founding Partner, Filed An Amicus Brief On Behalf Of The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce In March 2021.** “On behalf of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Wiley filed an *amicus* brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in support of petitioners who are challenging a California requirement that certain nonprofits disclose their major donors to the state. Earlier this year, the Court agreed to hear a First Amendment challenge to the state’s disclosure requirement by two advocacy groups, in *Americans for Prosperity Foundation v. Becerra* and *Thomas More Law Center v. Becerra*.” [Wiley, [03/03/21](#)]

- **Bert Rein Is A Founding Partner Of Wiley Rein LLP.** [Wiley, accessed [04/26/21](#)]

## **Bert Rein “Got A Clear Victory” When He Represented Shelby County In The Landmark Supreme Court Case Shelby V. Holder, Which Struck Down The Formula Used To Grant States With A History Of Voter Discrimination Permission To Alter Their Election Laws.**

**Attorney For Shelby County, Burt Rein “Got A Clear Victory” When The Supreme Court Ruled 5-4 In Shelby V. Holder To Strike Down Section 4 Of The Voting Rights Act.** “But the court has handed down two other highly anticipated rulings this week, both regarding the treatment of racial minorities—and both involving the same lawyer, Bert Rein. Though Rein cofounded the firm Wiley Rein in 1983, he’s often overshadowed by its other name partner: the higher-profile, former FCC chairman Richard Wiley. But this week, Rein is the one in the spotlight. But today, Rein got a clear victory when the justices decided *Shelby County v. Holder*. They determined in a 5-4 ruling that section 4 of the Voting Rights Act is unconstitutional.” [Washingtonian, [06/25/13](#)]

**The Supreme Court Ruling In Shelby v. Holder Struck Down The Formula Used To Grant States With A History Of Voter Discrimination Pre-Clearance To Change Their Election Laws.** “In that 2013 decision, the Supreme Court invalidated a decades-old ‘coverage formula’ naming jurisdictions that had to pass federal scrutiny under the Voting Rights Act, referred to as ‘preclearance,’ in order to pass any new elections or voting laws. Those jurisdictions were selected based on their having a history of discrimination in voting. The decision also left it to Congress to come up with new criteria for coverage, which hasn’t happened and probably won’t happen soon.” [The Atlantic, [07/10/18](#)]

## **Bert Rein Described His Win In Shelby V. Holder As Attacking The Voting Rights Act “Broadly But Realistically” And Claimed After The Win That He’d “Go In And Do It Again Anytime.”**

**Attorney Bert Rein, Who Represented Shelby County In Voting Rights Supreme Court Case Shelby County v. Holder, Claimed He Attacked The Voting Rights Act “Broadly But Realistically”.** “‘We attacked broadly but realistically’ in the Voting Rights Act case, Rein said. He knew that an outright rejection of Section 5, the preclearance mechanism that forces covered jurisdictions to submit election changes to the Justice Department, would be tough to achieve. ‘We were unlikely to reach it,’ Rein said. But he felt that ‘a majority of justices could coalesce around’ striking down Section 4, which provides the formula for determining which

jurisdictions are covered. 'We realized that if we prevailed on the formula, Section 5 wouldn't work.' [The National Law Journal, [07/15/13](#)]

**After Winning In Shelby v. Holder, Rein Said "I'd Go In And Do It Again Anytime."** "Now, after significant wins in both cases he argued, Rein said, 'I'd go in and do it again' anytime." [The National Law Journal, [07/15/13](#)]

## **Bert Rein, Then A "Newbie" To Supreme Court Litigation, Became The Attorney For Shelby County Through A Mutual Connection With Edward Blum, A Conservative Leader Who Critics Describe As "On A Mission To Destroy The Landmark Achievements Of The Civil Rights Era."**

**Edward Blum "Linked" Bert Rein With Shelby County And "Convinced" Shelby County To File Its Lawsuit Challenging The VRA.** "So how did Rein, a newbie at the high court, land such big cases? Edward Blum, a former stockbroker backed by conservative donors and the founder of the Project on Fair Representation, found plaintiffs for both Fisher and Shelby County, convinced them to file their lawsuits, and linked them up with Rein. Blum reportedly first got connected with Wiley Rein, widely regarded as a Republican-leaning firm." [Washingtonian, [06/25/13](#)]

- **Edward Blum Is A "Human Wrecking Ball On A Mission To Destroy The Landmark Achievements Of The Civil Rights Era" Through Over 20 Years Of Orchestrating Supreme Court Lawsuits.** "To his detractors, Edward Blum is one of the most dangerous men in America, a human wrecking ball on a mission to destroy the landmark achievements of the civil rights era and send the country back to a dark age of discrimination and harassment of minorities – in the workplace, in higher education and at the ballot box [...] For more than 20 years, working largely on his own, he has orchestrated lawsuits to challenge and, in some instances, dramatically reverse once sacrosanct legal principles. Case after case that he's filed – on voting rights, on the drawing of electoral districts, on affirmative action – has made its way to the supreme court, often against the predictions of legal scholars, and found a sympathetic reception from the conservative majority. [The Guardian, [01/05/16](#)]

## **Shelby V. Holder Resulted In "Predictable" Outcomes Of Voter Suppression Harming Poor People, People Of Color, And Elderly People, With Brookings Institution Policy Contributors Claiming That The Wave Of Voter Restrictions Introduced In 2021 Is The "Aftermath" Of Shelby V. Holder.**

**The Results Of Shelby V. Holder Were "Predictable," With States Passing Voter ID And Other Laws That Make It Harder For Poor People, People Of Color, And Elderly People To Vote.** "The results have been predictable. Voter-identification laws, which experts suggest will make voting harder especially for poor people, people of color, and elderly people, have advanced in several states, and some voting laws that make it easier to register and cast ballots have been destroyed. For many of the jurisdictions formerly under preclearance, voting became rapidly more difficult after the *Shelby County* decision, particularly for poor and elderly black people and Latinos." [The Atlantic, [07/10/18](#)]

**Brookings Contributors In April 2021: 2021 Voting Restriction Bills Are "The Aftermath" Of Shelby V. Holder.** "Georgia is sadly not alone in its assault on democracy. According to the Brennan Center for Justice, 'As of March 24, legislators have introduced 361 bills with restrictive provisions in 47 states.' These bills are the aftermath of the Supreme Court's 2013 ruling in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which said that state and local governments with a history of discrimination are no longer required to preclear amendments to voting laws and processes with the federal government." [Brookings Institution, [04/19/21](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Has Poured Over \$7.4 Million Into The Republican State Leadership Committee (RLSC), A Group That Attacked A Judge Who Struck Down An Arkansas Voter ID Law And Has Recently Launched A Nationwide “Voter Integrity” Commission To Introduced “Legislative Solutions” For Voter Integrity.**

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Has Given Over \$7.4 Million To The Republican State Leadership Committee (RSLC) Since 2016, A Year The Chamber Was “By Far” The RLSC’s Biggest Donor.**

During The 2016 Election Cycle, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was The Largest Donor “By Far” To The Republican State Leadership Committee (RSLC). “JCN is also a reliable donor to the Republican State Leadership Committee, along with tobacco company Reynolds American, Koch Industries, and large corporations that often have business before state courts. The RSLC’s largest donor in 2016 — by far — was the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the largest pro-business lobbying group in the country.” [Facing South, 07/20/18]

**During The 2016 Election Cycle, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was The Top Donor To The Republican State Leadership Committee, Having Contributed Over \$5.4 Million.**

Rank	Contributor	Total
1	US Chamber of Commerce	\$5,411,335

[Center for Responsive Politics, [08/15/16](#)]

**During The 2018 Election Cycle, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Was The Second Largest Donor To The Republican State Leadership Committee, Having Contributed Over \$2 Million.**

Rank	Contributor	Total
1	Judicial Confirmation Network	\$3,010,000
2	US Chamber of Commerce	\$2,035,379

[Center for Responsive Politics, [04/03/19](#)]

**Corporate Donors Such As Reynolds American, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Altria, Las Vegas Sands, Devon Energy, AstraZeneca, Walmart, Koch Industries, And Comcast Have Given Millions To The RSLC Since The 2010 Election Cycle.**

Company Name	2010 Cycle	2012 Cycle	2014 Cycle	2016 Cycle	2018 Cycle	Total
Reynolds American	\$1,323,661	\$981,473	\$1,704,106	\$1,201,073	\$846,554	\$6,056,867
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	\$1,029,501	\$2,672,707	\$1,035,402	\$566,483	\$507,398	\$5,811,491
Altria Group	\$1,435,944	\$1,016,083	\$731,023	\$840,380	\$1,227,297	\$5,250,727
Las Vegas Sands			\$1,150,750	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$3,150,750

Devon Energy	\$350,000	\$700,000	\$650,000	\$410,300		\$2,110,300
AstraZeneca PLC	\$510,368	\$350,310	\$432,156	\$276,599	\$426,717	\$1,996,150
Walmart Inc	\$273,776	\$338,394	\$464,887	\$391,414		\$1,468,471
Koch Industries		\$250,705	\$389,835	\$400,230	\$357,813	\$1,398,583
Comcast Corp	\$243,192	\$372,768	\$377,964	\$282,583		\$1,276,507
Amway/Alticor Inc				\$599,075	\$392,000	\$991,075
AT&T Inc	\$335,046	\$347,298	\$283,649			\$965,993
Citigroup Inc	\$206,397	\$286,754	\$334,300			\$827,451
BNSF Railway					\$676,328	\$676,328
Exxon Mobil		\$310,798	\$325,000			\$635,798
Wynn Resorts		\$540,000				\$540,000
Elliot Management					\$500,000	\$500,000
Holtzman Corp					\$475,000	\$475,000
Intuit Inc	\$181,074		\$271,280			\$452,354
Astellas Pharma				\$444,360		\$444,360
Berkshire Hathaway				\$427,950		\$427,950
Verizon Communications	\$416,526					\$416,526
GCI Communications					\$373,147	\$373,147
Wellcare Health Plans					\$367,407	\$367,407
Farmers Group				\$359,520		\$359,520
Centaur Gaming				\$345,000		\$345,000
Honeywell				\$310,810		\$310,810
Tracphone Wireless			\$263,351			\$263,351
Massachusetts Mutual	\$260,000					\$260,000
Marathon Oil			\$258,433			\$258,433
Eli Lilly & Co	\$223,768					\$223,768
Novartis AG	\$195,562					\$195,562

[Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [04/26/21](#)]

## **During The 2016 Election Cycle, The RSLC Funded An Ad Attacking An Arkansas Supreme Court Judge Who Struck Down The State's 2013 Voter ID Law.**

**In The 2016 Election Cycle, The RSLC Funded Ads During The Arkansas Supreme Court Primary That Attacked A Candidate For Striking Down Arkansas's 2013 Voter ID Law.** "In the recent Arkansas Supreme Court primary, JCN and the RSLC spent more than \$1 million combined. The groups' ads were criticized for misleading voters, and a judge even blocked a JCN attack ad, ruling that it was libelous. Among the ads aired by the RSLC was one attacking an Arkansas Supreme Court justice for joining in a ruling to strike down the state's 2013 voter ID law." [Facing South, [07/20/18](#)]



## **In 2021, The RSLC Launched An “Election Integrity” Commission Across All 50 States To Help Introduce So-Called “Legislative Solutions” To Voter Fraud – A Move That Democrats Have Called A Coordinated Attempt At “Voter Suppression.”**

**February 2021: The RSLC Launched An “Election Integrity” Commission For State Policymakers.** “The RSLC, the committee arm of the GOP that oversees electing and protecting state legislature and state senate officials in statehouses coast to coast as well as electing GOP secretaries of state in all 50 states, announced Wednesday morning a commission to highlight and put forward legislative solutions to stop voter fraud and secure American elections. The commission, co-chaired by Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill and Michigan state Sen. Ruth Johnson, will consider ideas from state lawmakers nationwide to develop best practices and recommendations for bills that legislatures coast to coast should pass into law to secure elections in the future.” [RSLC, [02/17/21](#)]

**Democrats Called The RSLC Commission An Attempt At “Voter Suppression.”** “Meanwhile, Democrats responded on Wednesday by criticizing the commission as a coordinated effort of ‘voter suppression.’ ‘Republicans are using the lies they told about election integrity to launch a coordinated effort to roll back voting rights nationwide,’ said Jessica Post, president of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, in a news release. ‘Republicans are working to make sure that they never lose another presidential election and we need to stop them.’” [CNN, [02/17/21](#)]

## **In April 2021, The RSLC Commission On Election Integrity Released Best Practices For State Voting Laws, Including Recommending Voter ID Laws, Preventing Universal Vote By Mail, And Instituting Signature Verification – All Of Which Are Shown To Disproportionately Disenfranchise Voters Of Color.**

**In April 2021, The RSLC Commission On Election Integrity Released “Best Practices” For Voting Laws.** [RSLC, [04/06/21](#)]

**The Commission’s Best Practices Were Prepared By Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill, Florida Secretary of State Laurel Lee, Kentucky Secretary of State Michael Adams, Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett, And Washington Secretary of State Kim Wyman.** [RSLC, [04/06/21](#)]

**The Commission’s Best Practices Included A Section On “Voter ID” Which Claims That That Voter IDs “Increase Confidence In Voter Registration Accuracy.”**

### **VOTER ID**

Requiring a photo ID card for online voter registration or in-person voting is a security measure to increase confidence in voter registration accuracy by deterring voter impersonation. Online voter registration applications submitted with a state-issued driver’s license or ID card and social security number can be compared to the appropriate state department data for verification. This practice confirms the applicant has previously appeared in-person at a government office. Photo ID at in-person voting locations provides election workers a uniform method to check-in voters.

[RSLC, [04/06/21](#)]

- **Up To 25% Of African-American Citizens In The United States Lack Government-Issued ID.** “Minority voters disproportionately lack ID. Nationally, up to 25% of African-American citizens of voting age lack government-issued photo ID, compared to only 8% of whites.” [ACLU, [05/17](#)]
- **Voter ID Laws Are Associated With Reduced Turnout Of Minority Voters.** “Voter ID laws reduce turnout among minority voters. Several studies, including a 2014 GAO study, have found that photo ID laws have a particularly depressive effect on turnout among racial minorities and other vulnerable groups, worsening the participation gap between voters of color and whites.” [ACLU, [05/17](#)]

**A 2014 Study Found 31 Instances Of In Person Voter Fraud Out Of Over One Billion Ballots Cast.** “In-person fraud is vanishingly rare. A recent study found that, since 2000, there were only 31 credible allegations of voter impersonation - the only type of fraud that photo IDs could prevent during a period of time in which over 1 billion ballots were cast.” [ACLU, [05/17](#)]

### **The RSLC Commission On Election Integrity Recommended Against States Adopting Universal Vote By Mail (VBM) Despite Universal VBM Increasing Turnout And Providing Voting Access To Voters Of Color Who Have Otherwise Been Disproportionately Harmed By Long Lines At The Polls.**

**The Commission’s Best Practices Assert That A State Or Jurisdiction Should Not Implement Universal Vote By Mail Unless 60% Of Voters Have Absentee Ballot Status For Two Federal Election Cycles.**

**Unless a state or local jurisdiction reaches a 60% threshold of voters with ongoing absentee ballot status, and maintains that threshold for two federal election cycles, they should not consider migrating to a full vote-by-mail system. States with the most experience conducting elections by mail found the successful full conversion to vote-by-mail takes between five and ten years to implement.**

[RSLC, [04/06/21](#)]

- **A 2020 Study Evaluating Data From 1996 To 2018 Found That Universal Vote By Mail Increased Turnout Without Favoring One Particular Party.** “We collect data from 1996 to 2018 on all three US states that implemented universal vote-by-mail in a staggered fashion across counties, allowing us to use a difference-in-differences design at the county level to estimate causal effects. We find that 1) universal vote-by-mail does not appear to affect either party’s share of turnout, 2) universal vote-by-mail does not appear to increase either party’s vote share, and 3) universal vote-by-mail modestly increases overall average turnout rates, in line with previous estimates. All three conclusions support the conventional wisdom of election administration experts and contradict many popular claims in the media.” [Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, [06/23/20](#)]
- **Failure To Expand Mail In Voting Has “Disproportionately Harmed Voters Of Color.”** “One consequence of failing to provide a mail-in ballot to everyone was unconscionably long lines at the polls in places like Atlanta, where votes waited from three to seven hours to vote—as well as in Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., among others. Disturbingly, these failures have disproportionately harmed voters of color. Black and Latino voters in Georgia, for example, had far fewer absentee ballot requests processed than did white voters. In state after state, voters of color waited in longer lines at the polls—compounding the significant racial disparities in wait times we saw in 2018.” [Newsweek, Opinion, [06/18/20](#)]

### **The RSLC Commission On Election Integrity Recommended Signature Verification, But Signature Verification Has Been Shown To Reject Valid Ballots And Disenfranchise Voters With Disabilities, Elderly Voters, And Voters Of Color.**

## The Commission's Best Practices Advocate For Signature Verification.

# SIGNATURE VERIFICATION

Signature verification is a tool to prevent voter impersonation. When election officials receive an application from a voter requesting an absentee ballot, the voter's identity is verified before the ballot is sent. This is done in a variety of ways. Some states conduct signature verification when a ballot request is received and when the ballot is received to compare the voter's signature with their signature on file with the election official.

States may consider: whether this is a necessary or desired step and how and when any rejected applications may be cured. Contacting voters whose returned ballot envelopes contain unsigned oaths or mismatched signatures assists in updating voter signatures and identifying potentially fraudulent returned ballots.

[RSLC, [04/06/21](#)]

- **Signature Matching Especially Disenfranchises “Voters With Disabilities, Elderly Voters, Trans Voters, Women Voters, ESL Voters, And Military Voters.”** “Disenfranchising a voter should not be done lightly. An official without training in signature or handwriting analysis should not reject a voter's application or ballot until they notify the voter and give them an opportunity to fix the issue. Without proper notice and opportunity to cure, voters, especially voters with disabilities, elderly voters, trans voters, women voters, ESL voters and military voters, are susceptible to being unfairly excluded from the democratic process.” [ACLU, [11/02/18](#)]
- **A Political Scientist Challenging Ohio's Signature Matching Law Found That For Every Actually Invalid Ballot, 32 Valid Ballots Are Rejected.** “A political scientist at Carroll College, working on behalf of plaintiffs challenging Ohio's signature-matching law, found that 97 percent of rejected signatures are likely to be authentic—or, for every invalid ballot, 32 valid ones are thrown out.” [The Atlantic, [10/21/20](#)]
- **Ballot Rejections Disproportionately Impact “Elderly Voters, Young Voters, And Voters Of Color.”** “Even in normal election cycles, signature-matching requirements result in many ballots being rejected. Hundreds of thousands of such ballots were disqualified this way in 2016—almost all, presumably, cast by voters who had done everything right. Rejections disproportionately hit certain demographic groups, including elderly voters, young voters, and voters of color.” [The Atlantic, [10/21/20](#)]

**In 2010, The US Chamber Of Commerce Funded The Conservative Led Redistricting Majority Project Known As REDMAP, Which Targeted State Legislative Races In 16 States And Allowed Republican-Controlled Districting Condemned By Voting Rights Advocates As Having “Cracked, Stacked, Packed, And Bleached Black Voters.”**

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Funded The Redistricting Majority Project, Also Known As REDMAP, Which Leveraged Corporate Funding To Regain Republican Control Of State Legislatures In Order To Gerrymander.**

The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce “Hatched” The Redistricting Majority Project (REDMAP) Which Had The Goal Of Using Corporate Money To Win Republican Control Of State Legislatures. “In January 2010,

the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision allowed corporations, for the first time ever, to spend unlimited money on politics. Within a few months, Republican strategists and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce hatched a plan to take advantage of the newly available corporate cash. They called it Project 'RedMap,' or 'Redistricting Majority Project.' Its goal was to use corporate money— much of it contributed secretly through the Chamber—to win Republican control of state legislatures in the Fall of 2010. That year's elections were particularly important because the officials who came into office that year would be charged with redrawing legislative district boundaries based on the 2010 census." [Economic Policy Institute, [05/08/17](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Funded The Redistricting Majority Project (REDMAP).** "In The Wall Street Journal that March, no less an eminence than Karl Rove outlined a strategy Republicans named the Redistricting Majority Project—REDMAP for short—led by former RNC chairman Ed Gillespie and funded with \$30 million kicked in by Fortune 500 mega-players like Walmart, Reynolds American, Pfizer, AT&T, and Citigroup, together with mainline GOP stalwarts including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Blue Cross Blue Shield. [New Republic, [10/15/20](#)]

**REDMAP Targeted 107 Local State Legislative Races In 16 States, Empowering State Legislatures To Regain Republican Majorities And Redistrict.** "REDMAP targeted 107 local state legislative races in 16 states—including, as you might imagine, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Florida. This coordinated campaign offensive flooded these lower-profile races with negative ads, and duly defeated Democratic incumbents amid a surging wave of anti-Affordable Care Act and Tea Party protests. GOP majorities in these critical states were thus empowered to redraw congressional district maps to pack as many Black and Democratic voters into as few districts as possible, creating a wholesale political resegregation along both sides of the Mason-Dixon line. [New Republic, [10/15/20](#)]

**REDMAP Resulted In Gerrymandering That "Pack[ed] As Many Black And Democratic Voters Into As Few Districts As Possible," Leading Co-Chair Of The National Poor People's Campaign Reverend Dr. William J. Barber II To Claim That REDMAP "Cracked, Stacked, Packed, And Bleached Black Voters."**

**REDMAP Resulted In The Gerrymandering That "Pack[ed] As Many Black And Democratic Voters Into As Few Districts As Possible."** "GOP majorities in these critical states were thus empowered to redraw congressional district maps to pack as many Black and Democratic voters into as few districts as possible, creating a wholesale political resegregation along both sides of the Mason-Dixon line." [New Republic, [10/15/20](#)]

**Co-Chair Of The National Poor People's Campaign: After REDMAP, State Legislators "Cracked, Stacked, Packed, And Bleached Black Voters."** "They cracked, stacked, packed, and bleached Black voters,' said the Reverend Dr. William J. Barber II, co-chair of the national Poor People's Campaign. We think of the 2010 election as the Tea Party's ascendancy, but its far more momentous impact was to unleash the partisan and racial gerrymanders that played a vital role in creating the Trump electorate. [New Republic, [10/15/20](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Gave \$4,500 To Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX), Who Undermined The 2020 Election Results And Spread Doubt About Voting Systems And Laws.**

**Texas House Representative Dan Crenshaw Undermined The 2020 Election Results And Landmark Voting Rights Bill, H.R. 1, Calling For Limited Mail-In Voting And Claiming That Democrats Were "Intentionally Trying To Create Doubt."**

**Crenshaw Claimed That The 2020 Election Was "Chaos" And "Embarrassing," Calling For New Voter ID Laws And "Limited Mail-In Voting."** "The 2020 election chaos is embarrassing & must be fixed. Election integrity must be a priority at every level of gov't moving forward. The integrity of elections must be self-

evident, an airtight process that withstands scrutiny, where no one can plausibly question results. The 2005 bipartisan Commission on Federal Election Reform should be a guide. Voter ID (registration and vote), Universal registration system, led by states, to prevent double registration and non-citizen voting. Limited mail-in voting.” [Twitter, [11/28/20](#)]

**Crenshaw Called Mail-In Voting An “Unreliable Practice.”** “In the 2020 presidential primary, 550k mail in ballots were thrown out. Improperly marked, mismatched signatures, etc. One can conclude that (1) valid votes were thrown out or (2) election officials detected fraud & discarded ballot. Conclusion: limit this unreliable practice.” [Twitter, [11/28/20](#)]

**Crenshaw Said That Democrats Were “Intentionally Trying To Create Doubt” In Voting By Pushing For Mail-In Voting.** “Houston Congressman Dan Crenshaw ripped into Democrats during a testy interview on Monday, saying they are going too far in pushing mail-in voting, which he says is ripe for fraud and other mistakes. ‘I think the Democrat party is intentionally trying to create doubt,’ Crenshaw said during an interview aired Monday as part of the Texas Tribune Festival.” [Houston Chronicle, [9/21/20](#)]

**Crenshaw Claimed That Democrats Were “Exaggerating The Risk Of Voting In Person During The Pandemic” And That Universal Mail-In Voting “Would Increase The Chances Of Fraud.”** “While he said he has no issue with typical absentee voting where a voter requests a ballot and it is sent to them, he said Democrats are exaggerating the risks of voting in person during the pandemic, and that the universal mail-in voting system they support would increase the chances of voter fraud.” [Houston Chronicle, [9/21/20](#)]

### **The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce PAC Gave Crenshaw \$4,500 Over From 2018 To 2021.**

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
9/4/18	US Chamber PAC	Dan Crenshaw for Congress	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>
9/2/20	US Chamber PAC	Dan Crenshaw for Congress	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>
3/8/21	US Chamber PAC	Dan Crenshaw for Congress	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$4,500</b>

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Gave Over \$5,000 To Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Who Perpetuated “Unsubstantiated Allegations Of Voter Fraud” And Claimed The For The People Act Would Keep “Democrats In Power For 100 Years.”**

### **Texas Senator Ted Cruz Furthered “Unsubstantiated Allegations Of Voter Fraud” During The 2020 Election And Claimed That The For The People Act Would Keep “Democrats In Power For 100 Years.”**

**January 2021: Cruz Led A Group Of Senators In Announcing That They Would Reject Electors From Certain States Won By Joe Biden, “Citing Unsubstantiated Allegations Of Voter Fraud.”** “Nearly a dozen Republican senators and senators-elect led by Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas said Saturday they will reject electors from certain states won by President-elect Joe Biden, citing unsubstantiated allegations of voter fraud and calling for an emergency 10-day audit of the results, an unprecedented attempt to thwart the democratic process.” [Washington Post, [1/2/21](#)]

**March 2021: Ted Cruz Claimed That H.R. 1, The For The People Act, Would Keep “Democrats In Power For 100 Years.”** “Cruz also took issue with language in the bill that makes it easier for some incarcerated people to vote. These measures, Cruz said, show that the real the aim of the bill is ‘keeping Democrats in power for 100 years.’” [ABCNews, [03/24/21](#)]

**Cruz Argued That Automatic Voter Registration Would Lead To “An Influx Of Registered Undocumented People.”** “A principal concern for Republicans is language that would require states to automatically register individuals who receive a drivers license to vote unless they opt out. Though the bill would still require proof of citizenship for voter enrollment, Texas Republican Ted Cruz said he was concerned automatic voter registration might lead to an influx of registered undocumented people.” [ABCNews, [03/24/21](#)]

**Cruz Claimed That H.R. 1 Was “Designed To Get Criminals To Vote.”** “‘This bill is designed to get criminals to vote,’ Cruz said. ‘This bill says, ‘If you’re a murderer, if you’re a rapist, if you’re a child molester, we the Democrats want you voting.’” [CNN, [03/25/21](#)]

### **The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce PAC Gave Cruz \$5,500 In Campaign Contributions From 2017 To 2018.**

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
11/28/17	US Chamber PAC	Ted Cruz Victory Committee	<a href="#">\$2,000</a>
7/19/18	US Chamber PAC	Ted Cruz for Senate	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
08/27/18	US Chamber PAC	Ted Cruz for Senate	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$5,500</b>

**Over Six Years, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Gave \$16,000 To Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA), Who Single-Handedly Blocked Critical Voting Rights Legislation In The U.S. House.**

### **Virginia Congressman Bob Goodlatte Was Instrumental In Blocking 2015 Voting Rights Legislation That Would Restore Parts Of The Voting Rights Act Struck Down By The Supreme Court, Refusing To Hold A Hearing For The Bill.**

**2015: Democrats Introduced Legislation that Would Restore A Provision Of The Voting Rights Act Struck Down By The Supreme Court, Requiring Federal Approval For Voting Procedure Changes In Some States.** “Congressional Democrats are expected to unveil new legislation this week, possibly as soon as Wednesday, that if passed would restore the requirement for federal approval for voting procedure changes in some states, a provision of the Voting Rights Act struck down by the Supreme Court two years ago. The legislation, titled ‘The Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015,’ would force any state that has had 15 or more voting rights violations in the last 25 years to be subject to federal preclearance for any change in voting procedure or law.” [Washington Post, [06/23/15](#)]

**Republican House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) Refused To Hold A Hearing Voting Rights Bill That Would Provide Federal Oversight Over State Voting Procedure Changes.** “Earlier this summer Leahy and Lewis promoted a tougher version of the bill with a formula that would track state violations over a 25-year period. It would immediately place a dozen or so states under federal oversight, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Florida and New York. But as of right now, neither bill is going anywhere anytime soon. Representative Bob Goodlatte of Virginia, the chairman of the House committee that would most likely move the bill, the Judiciary Committee, has indicated he has no interest in giving the topic a hearing.” [New York Times, [08/12/15](#)]

**Goodlatte Claimed That The “Voting Rights Act Is Providing Substantial Protection In This Area.”**

“House Judiciary Committee Chairman, Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., on Wednesday suggested other sections of the Voting Rights Act are already strong enough. ‘To this point, we have not seen a process forward that is necessary to protect people because we think the Voting Rights Act is providing substantial protection in this area right now,’ Goodlatte said while speaking to reporters at the Christian Science Monitor breakfast.” [NBC News, [01/15/15](#)]

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Gave Goodlatte \$16,000 Over Six Years In Campaign Contributions.**

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
5/3/11	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
3/28/12	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
4/16/13	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$1,500</a>
3/25/14	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
3/3/15	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
9/16/15	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>
5/10/16	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$2,500</a>
9/6/17	US Chamber PAC	Bob Goodlatte for Congress Committee	<a href="#">\$1,000</a>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$16,000</b>

**The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Has \$15,000 To Given House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), Who Undermined Voting Access Measures And Voting Rights Legislation, Calling It “Disgusting” And “Unnecessary.”**

**House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) Has Called Voting Measures Like Mail-In Voting “Disgusting” And Has Called Democrats’ Voting Rights Legislation As A “Massive Federal Government Takeover That Would Undermine The Integrity Of Our Elections.”**

House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy Called Funding For Mail-In Voting “Disgusting.” And “Unnecessary.” “House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) said it’s ‘disgusting’ that Democrats are pushing to include money for mail-in voting in the next coronavirus relief bill, dismissing the idea as unnecessary despite the pandemic. ‘You want to hold up the bill because you want to change election law for November, because you think that gives you some political benefit?’ McCarthy told reporters during a press call Thursday. ‘That’s disgusting to me. ... Stop worrying about politics. Worry about what’s in front of us. And that’s the health of the nation ... and our economy.’” [Politico, [04/09/20](#)]

- **Rep. Kevin McCarthy Is The House Republican Leader.** [U.S. House of Representatives, accessed [04/23/21](#)]

**California Congressman Kevin McCarthy Called H.R. 1 “A Massive Federal Government Takeover That Would Undermine The Integrity Of Our Elections.”** “House Republicans sought to portray the legislation, which passed 234 to 193 along party lines, as a self-interested proposal that tilts the political playing field toward Democrats. Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) called it ‘a massive federal government takeover that would undermine the integrity of our elections.’ [Washington Post, [03/08/19](#)]

**McCarthy Claimed That H.R. 1 Would Cause The American Public To “Lose Our Freedom.”** “No, I don't have the most to lose: The American public have the most to lose because we would lose our freedom,’ McCarthy, R-Calif., said on Fox News Channel’s ‘Sunday Morning Futures.’ ‘When you put a bill into Congress, the majority party reserves the first numbers. This is H.R. 1, so this is most important for Nancy Pelosi to hold on to her power.’ [Fox News, [02/28/21](#)]

**From 2018 To 2020, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Gave Kevin McCarthy \$15,000 In Campaign Contributions.**

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
6/6/18	US Chamber PAC	Kevin McCarthy for Congress	<a href="#">\$5,000</a>
2/24/20	US Chamber PAC	Kevin McCarthy for Congress	<a href="#">\$5,000</a>
9/2/20	US Chamber PAC	Kevin McCarthy for Congress	<a href="#">\$5,000</a>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$15,000</b>

**The U.S. Chamber Has Given \$15,000 To Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Who Backed Voter Suppression Efforts—The Chamber Even Made A Donation Just Days Before Hyde-Smith Joked That Laws That Made It Harder For Students To Vote Were “A Great Idea.”**

**Mississippi Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith Has Long Supported Voter Suppression, Calling For Laws To Make It Harder For College Students To Vote “A Great Idea,” Defending Georgia’s Voter Suppression Law That Would Limit Sunday Voting, And Undermining The For The People Act.**

**November 2018: Hyde-Smith Said That She Thought Laws That “Make It Just A Little More Difficult” For College Students To Vote Were “A Great Idea.”** “Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) is facing backlash for her remarks once again after saying laws that “make it just a little more difficult” for some college students to vote are ‘a great idea.’ A video tweeted Thursday afternoon shows Hyde-Smith telling a small crowd in Starkville, Miss., that ‘they remind me that there’s a lot of liberal folks in those other schools who maybe we don’t want to vote. Maybe we want to make it just a little more difficult. And I think that’s a great idea.’ [Washington Post, [11/16/18](#)]

- **Hyde-Smith’s Campaign Responded That She Was “Obviously” Joking.** “A video surfaced Thursday of Republican Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith of Mississippi saying it might be a “great idea” to make it harder for some people to vote, and her campaign quickly responded that she was ‘obviously’ joking.” [NBC News, [11/15/18](#)]

**Mississippi Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith Claimed That The “For The People Act” Would “Nullify” Mississippi’s “Successful” Voter ID Law, Allowing Anyone To Vote “Without Ever Showing Any Proof Of Identity Or Residency.”** “A new federal voting-rights bill would not overturn Mississippi’s voter ID requirement for voting, despite claims U.S. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith repeated yesterday as she denounced S. 1, the “For The People Act,” casting it as a “radical” intrusion on state’s powers. ‘The legislation before us



today would nullify Mississippi’s successful voter ID law. Under S.1, in a federal election, an individual could walk into a polling place, register and vote on the spot, without ever showing any proof of identity or residency,’ the Republican senator said in a statement.” [Mississippi Free Press, [03/25/21](#)]

- **Hyde-Smith Called The Legislation A “Radical’ Intrusion On State’s Powers.”** “A new federal voting-rights bill would not overturn Mississippi’s voter ID requirement for voting, despite claims U.S. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith repeated yesterday as she denounced S. 1, the “For The People Act,” casting it as a “radical” intrusion on state’s powers. ‘The legislation before us today would nullify Mississippi’s successful voter ID law. Under S.1, in a federal election, an individual could walk into a polling place, register and vote on the spot, without ever showing any proof of identity or residency,’ the Republican senator said in a statement.” [Mississippi Free Press, [03/25/21](#)]

**Hyde-Smith Defended A Georgia Proposal To Limit In-Person Voting On Sundays By Saying That “Elections In Mississippi Would Never Take Place On Sundays For Religious Reasons.”** “U.S. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith caused a stir on social media Wednesday after making a comment that elections in Mississippi would never take place on Sundays for religious reasons [...] Schumer presented a question earlier in the meeting, asking why Georgia proposed to limit in-person voting or election activities taking place on Sundays. Hyde-Smith responded ‘I can’t speak for Georgia, but I can speak for Mississippi on why we would never have an election on a Sunday,’ she said. ‘Etched in the U.S. Senate chamber is ‘In God We Trust.’ ... In God’s word, in Exodus 20:18, it says ‘Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.’” [Mississippi Clarion Ledger, [03/25/21](#)]

**Since 2018, The U.S. Chamber Of Commerce Has Given Cindy-Hyde Smith \$15,000**

Date	Contributor	Recipient	Amount
11/8/18	US Chamber PAC	Cindy Hyde-Smith for US Senate	<a href="#">\$5,000</a>
1/27/20	US Chamber PAC	Cindy Hyde-Smith for US Senate	<a href="#">\$5,000</a>
1/27/20	US Chamber PAC	Cindy Hyde-Smith for US Senate	<a href="#">\$5,000</a>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$15,000</b>