

## **Democracy and Voting Rights**

The foremost champion for voting rights in the U.S. Senate, Senator Warnock has introduced landmark voting rights legislation, including the *Freedom to Vote Act* and the *John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act*. The Senator believes that Congress must pass voting rights legislation because the sacred right to vote is preservative of all other rights in our country.

## **Senator Warnock's Voting Rights Legislation:**

<u>Freedom to Vote Act:</u> This legislation improves access to the ballot for all Americans; advances commonsense federal election standards and campaign finance reforms; and protects our democracy by seeking to end partisan gerrymandering and root out the influence of dark money in politics.

<u>Voting Rights Advancement Act</u>: This legislation restores the *Voting Rights Act of 1965* and strengthen our democracy by reestablishing preclearance for jurisdictions with a pattern of voting rights violations, protecting minority communities subject to discriminatory voting practices, and rebuffing brazen attempts by the Supreme Court to undermine the right to vote..

## **Highlights of Senator Warnock's Leadership:**

- Senator Warnock <u>began</u> his tenure in the Senate urging his colleagues to pass federal voting rights protections in his maiden floor speech after being elected.
- The Senator <u>worked</u> until the last minute in the 117th Congress to get any meaningful legislation passed.
- He <u>crafted</u> updated federal voting rights legislation to address various voter suppression efforts happening in Georgia and nationwide.
- The Senator pressing the moral case <u>in the Senate</u> and <u>beyond</u> for why Congress must urgently pass legislation to protect the sacred right to vote.
- Last year, Public Citizen <u>awarded Senator Warnock</u> with the Golden Boot Award for his advocacy at the federal level to champion federal voting rights legislation and defend our democracy.
- In the spring of 2023, the Senator and the Majority Leader <u>pressured</u> the Department of Justice (DOJ) to investigate the expulsions of Representatives Justin Jones and Justin Pearson from the Tennessee General Assembly to determine whether any violations of the United States Constitution or federal civil rights laws occurred and to take all steps necessary to uphold the democratic integrity of our nation's legislative bodies.
- In July 2023, the Senator <u>introduced</u> the *Freedom to Vote Act* and <u>led</u> the introduction of the *Preventing Election Subversion Act*.
- In February 2024, the Senator <u>reintroduced</u> the *John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act*, named in honor of the Senator's parishioner and mentor the late Congressman John Lewis.
- In the Fiscal Year 2024 government funding bills, the Senator <u>secured</u> language to direct the Department of Justice to prioritize resources to enforce the civil provisions of the federal laws that protect the right to vote.

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