

Fight voter suppression Help people get vaccinated

Dear Democrat,

Last week, Senate Democrats passed President Biden's desperately-needed \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package, and House Dems passed an equally-needed bill to expand voting rights - both without a single Republican vote.

Meanwhile, in statehouses across the country, Republicans are unleashing a barrage of voter suppression legislation. In California, they are mounting a recall campaign against our governor that diverts the state from the very real challenges of fighting the pandemic.

Despite these obstacles, we are hopeful and undeterred - we have seen the power of our activism.

Below we offer you opportunities to fight voter suppression nationally and to help people get vaccinated locally, as well as a stay-tuned update on the recall campaign.

Fight voter suppression

Rather than take stock of their loss of the Presidency and Congress in 2020, Republicans are instead looking to tilt the scales in their favor. So far, they have introduced **165 voter suppression bills in 28 state legislatures.**

In Iowa, one such bill has already reached the governor's desk. In Georgia and Arizona - both crucial battleground states – Republicans have introduced nearly two dozen bills taking aim at ballot drop boxes, early voting, mail-in voting and more.

To ensure every voice is heard in 2022 and 2024, the Center for Common Ground is currently hosting phone banks into Georgia and Arizona on a nearly daily basis, where volunteers can patch voters directly into the offices of their state representatives to voice their opposition to these bills restricting voting. Volunteers can either join a guided phone bank or make calls on their own. Here's how:

Arizona phone banks

Georgia phone banks

In Georgia alone, phone bankers have made nearly 30,000 calls to voters, resulting in more than 1,000 patch-through calls. Any time you can spare will push these numbers higher.

Help people get vaccinated

Anyone who has tried to figure out whether they are eligible for a vaccine, and if so where to get it, knows how difficult it can be - especially for those who aren't computer-savvy or lack Internet access.

To make it easier, our local party is calling its members 65 and older and offering them information on how to go about getting a shot. If someone needs help making an appointment online, we are referring them to various nonprofits who are ready to assist.

'Get Out the Vaccine' phone bankers can either make calls on their own, or join others on Thursday evenings. We are seeking volunteers who speak English, Spanish or Vietnamese. We welcome your participation and you can sign up here:

SCCDP 'Get Out the Vaccine' Phone Bank

A huge thanks to the 15 students from De Anza College and Presentation High School who piloted this program. And to the many local party volunteers who have pitched in, including Jonathan Hull, who handled the technical aspects of setting up the phone bank, writing the software and gathering statistics. Altogether, their efforts have resulted in more than 1,500 phone calls to members in East San Jose and Gilroy, with plans to expand countywide.

We are also piloting a textbank which should help us push vaccination information out to thousands more people. And we are working with San Joaquin County's Democratic Party to allow them to piggyback onto our efforts.

Update on the recall campaign

Republicans are funding a recall campaign against Gov. Gavin Newsom, which is attracting anti-vaxxers and Trump loyalists, as well as small business owners. Our hearts go out to the small business owners devastated by the pandemic, but recalling Gov. Newsom is not the answer. What we need is immediate government relief to re-start the economy, such as that offered by President Biden's \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan.

We will know by the end of April whether the recall campaign has collected enough valid signatures to qualify for the ballot. If it does, our state will need to spend millions of dollars for a special election, only to have to repeat that election in 2022, when the regular election is scheduled - not a good idea.

We will keep you updated on what you can do.

Thank you to each of you

You are the reason we have President Biden and Vice President Harris, the reason we won the House and Senate, and the reason we will continue winning in the future. Thank you.

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