



June 8, 2021

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support S. 1, the For the People Act, and Eliminate the Filibuster

Dear Senator,

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) believes that everyone has a right to clean air, clean water, public lands, and a safe climate protected by a just and equitable democracy. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

We urge you to vote YES on S. 1, the For the People Act, and we want to be unequivocal that we will score this vote in the 2021 *Scorecard*. This is a departure from our standard procedure of sending a letter to the full Senate when a floor vote is imminent and noting a given vote will be considered for inclusion in the *National Environmental Scorecard*. But with unprecedented attacks on voting rights across the country, this is not the time for standard protocol.

It's vitally important that S. 1 be enacted into law this year in order to strengthen voting rights, increase transparency and fairness in our campaign finance system, and improve our ethics laws. S. 1 seeks to address issues at the core of a well-functioning nation – that every eligible voter can participate equitably in our democracy, and that the people's voice, rather than outsized corporate influence, guides our elected officials. For far too long, restrictive voting laws and partisan gerrymandering have silenced voices in our communities, disproportionately impacting people of color, young people, and people with disabilities, and the myriad threats to voting rights in states around the country will only make this worse.

LCV is dedicated to taking real action to address climate change, air and water pollution, making sure our public lands are available to all, and ensuring that in addressing these problems we recognize the harms particularly faced by communities of color. But when big polluter interests flood money into our elections, gerrymandering divides our communities, or partisan politicians suppress access to the ballot box, it drowns out the voices of those directly experiencing the health impacts of pollution in their communities and the dangers of extreme weather. It's clear that a healthy democracy and a healthy environment are inextricably linked, and S. 1 is necessary to ensure elected officials are held accountable to the people who know our communities need action now.

In addition to expressing our fervent support for S. 1, LCV is also calling on the Senate to eliminate the filibuster rule. While the filibuster has been used for good in the past, today the filibuster is not a tool to foster compromise on Capitol Hill. In fact, some of the arcane rule's most notable uses have been to block legislation that would benefit people of color and other underserved communities across the country. Enough is enough. People across



the country are demanding bold, transformative action to protect the health of our democracy and our environment, and it's time for the Senate to eliminate the filibuster rule.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to support the *For the People Act* and assure you that this vote will definitely be included in the 2021 *Scorecard*. If you need more information, please reach out to a member of our Government Relations team.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President