

State VRA Key Findings Memo

TO	Interested Parties
FROM	Legal Defense Fund (LDF) / Impact Research
DATE	January 30, 2025
RE	Poll Finds Overwhelming Support for State Voting Rights Acts

Recent polling conducted by Impact Research on behalf of the Legal Defense Fund (LDF) shows that voters nationwide overwhelmingly support enacting a Voting Rights Act (VRA) in their state and would like to see their state legislators prioritize passing one.¹ Additionally, each of the key provisions of a state VRA is very popular.

■ More than three-quarters of voters support a voting rights act in their state.

A strong majority are in favor of passing a VRA to protect voting rights in their state (78% support / 8% oppose) with 61% strongly supporting it. Support for a state VRA transcends partisanship and other demographics:

- 89% of Democrats / 74% of Republicans / 69% of Independents
- 89% of AAPI voters / 87% of Black voters / 82% of Latino voters / 80% of MENA voters² / 76% of white voters

■ Voters overwhelmingly would like their state legislators to *prioritize passing a VRA in their state*. About 8-in-10 voters (81%) nationwide view protecting voting rights in their state as very important. To that end, voters across race and partisanship would like their state representative to prioritize passing a state VRA (73% agree / 19% disagree), including 56% who feel that way strongly. This desire for prioritization includes:

- 93% of Democrats / 66% of Independents / 62% of Republicans
- 82% of AAPI voters / 81% of Black voters / 80% of MENA voters / 74% of Latino voters / 72% of white voters

1 These findings are based on a poll conducted July 8 - 15, 2024 among N=1,800 likely 2024 general election voters nationwide, including N=400 oversamples in Maryland and Michigan as well as N=100 oversamples of Black, Latino, and MENA voters. The poll was conducted via online and text-to-web interviews. The margin of error for the full sample is ±3.7 percentage points. The margin of error for subgroups varies and is higher.

2 MENA stands for Middle Eastern and North African and is now a Census Bureau minimum reporting category that includes individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of the Middle East or North Africa, including, for example, Lebanese, Iranian, Egyptian, Syrian, Iraqi, and Israeli. See OMB Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 on Race and Ethnicity Data Standards, <https://spd15revision.gov/>.

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- **Voters see their voting rights under threat and view protecting these rights as very important.** About two-thirds of voters (65%) believe that voting rights are being threatened in their state. A strong majority across partisan and demographic lines (83%) feel it's very important to take steps to protect voting rights in their state, including:

- 90% of Democrats / 80% of Republicans / 73% of Independents
- 89% of Black voters / 88% of Latino voters / 81% of white voters / 76% of MENA voters

- **There is also strong support for each of the components of a state VRA.**

Every component tested is supported by over two-thirds of voters, with most enjoying three-quarters or greater support:

- Requiring cities or counties to notify voters of important voting changes, like different rules or shifts to polling locations: 94% support
- Protecting voters against harassment, intimidation, or any efforts to interfere with their right to vote: 90% support
- Preventing voter suppression that denies voters equal and fair voting opportunities, such as closing polling places in communities of color or aggressively removing people from the voting rolls: 80% support
- Stopping racial vote dilution — when politicians manipulate voting districts to weaken or drown out the voices of Black and Brown voters: 78% support
- Requiring local governments with a record of discrimination to prove that voting changes won't harm Black and Brown voters before they can go into effect: 78% support
- Creating a central, public database of election information so voting rights advocates don't need to seek election information from hundreds of counties or cities to enforce rules against discrimination: 78% support
- Expanding language assistance for voters who have limited understanding of English: 73% support
- Eliminating discriminatory at-large elections — where there are no districts so all the candidates go before every voter, so even a small majority of like-minded voters can select all the winning officeholders: 69% support