

Dear County Chairs,

Today marks the first day of the 2017 Iowa legislative session. With control of both the Iowa House, the Iowa Senate and the Governor's mansion, Iowa Republicans now have an opportunity to put forth extreme, partisan legislation that will hurt Iowans across the state. In the past few weeks, Republicans have revealed their priorities, and it doesn't look good for Democrats.

Last Friday, Secretary of State Paul Pate announced a plan to make it more difficult for Iowans to vote by requiring a photo ID. Voter ID laws are designed to influence elections and no law should infringe upon anyone's right to vote. Voting is a basic right that we must protect. Unfortunately, Republicans are turning our fundamental right to vote into a partisan issue to make it harder for the young, the elderly, minorities and the disabled to vote. But, here's the good news, ***YOU CAN FIGHT BACK!***

The 2017 Iowa legislative session convened this morning, and Iowa Republicans have made taking away our right to vote one of their top priorities. But, you do not have to be silent, make your voice heard!

Here are the 3 important things we are asking Iowa Democrats to do:

- 1. Contact your local legislators.** Please contact your local Iowa House and Senate representatives today. You can find their contact information [here](#). Tell them that Iowa cannot afford to spend millions of dollars on voting regulations that silence the voices of Iowans young and old. Tell them to VOTE NO on any Voter ID legislation!
- 2. Write a Letter to the Editor.** Your voice does matter, and you can amplify our message by writing a letter to your local newspaper. Not sure what to say? Please contact Monica Biddix at mbiddix@iowademocrats.org for talking points and sample letters. Monica will also give you your local newspapers policies on length and substance. Iowa Republicans do not have a mandate to restrict important freedoms like access to the voting booth. We cannot afford to stay silent.
- 3. Follow us on social media.** Please follow Iowa Democrats on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). We will post all the latest news and articles on this dangerous and piece of legislation. Help us amplify the message from the *Des Moines Register* on Republicans misplaced priorities: ["This is not some benign effort to protect the integrity of the voting process; it's a calculated attempt to disenfranchise a segment of the population that is legally entitled to vote."](#)

You still have power. Iowa Democrats cannot allow Republicans to put forth an extreme agenda, especially one that includes stripping away our important right to vote. Fight back today. Our lawmakers' inboxes should be flooded. Their phones should be ringing off the hook.

TAKE ACTION! BE HEARD! [MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!](#)

Any questions? Please give us a call at [\(515\) 244-7292](tel:(515)244-7292).

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