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Right to vote and election integrity: both are sacred

By Steve Bakke  August 17, 2021



A July 15 letter about election controls offered several observations, including: “the right to vote is sacred”; proposed restrictions require “overwhelming evidence” of necessity; proposed controls have the same voter suppression intent as “Jim Crow”; and voter fraud is a Republican myth for justifying suppression.

Joe Biden is President, and republicans must stop the foolish and fruitless jousting at windmills of “stolen elections.” But the reality is that human nature, combined with opportunity and a righteous desire to win, make election mischief inevitable. Homeowners don’t wait for a robbery before locking their doors. And election controls shouldn’t wait for a fraud before being established. Without controls, fraud will eventually occur.

Let’s not ignore the 2004 “Commission on Federal Election Reform” chaired by former President Carter and Reagan advisor James Baker. Their many recommendations included: nonpartisan state election oversight; “universal voting registration system” led by states; a uniform ID system; and regular updates of voter registration records.

States’ election reform efforts are intended to establish fair and commonsense election security after many controls were removed during the 2020 “COVID” election.

Election integrity is sacred, and fair and free voter identification requirements, along with ballot controls, are the foundation of that integrity.