June 21, 2021

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 3 million members of the National Education Association and the 50 million students they serve, we urge you to VOTE YES on advancing the For the People Act (S. 2093). The right to vote is the bedrock of our democracy and deserves an up-and-down vote by the full Senate. Votes on this issue may be included in the NEA Report Card for the 117th Congress.

Exercising the right to vote has become more difficult in recent years, particularly for African Americans and other people of color, people with disabilities, students, and senior citizens. As of mid-May, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, 389 bills introduced in 48 state legislatures included provisions that would make it even more difficult to vote—for example, by shortening the time for absentee and early voting, purging voter rolls, and seizing control of local election boards.

The For the People Act would:

- Expand voting by mail, early voting, and institute automatic voter registration
- Ensure that discriminatory voter ID requirements do not prevent citizens from voting and prohibit purges of voter rolls
- Require organizations involved in politics to disclose large donors while increasing the influence of individual citizens with matching systems for small donations
- Prevent politicians from picking their voters through gerrymandering
- Expand conflict of interest laws and divestment requirements, and require presidential candidates to disclose their tax returns
- Enhance federal support for voting system security, increase oversight of election vendors, and overhaul the Office of Government Ethics

The For the People Act will help restore faith in our democracy, encourage voters to participate in our political system, and reassure Americans that their voices matter. Please VOTE YES on advancing this crucial legislation for a vote by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association