

## **Statement Regarding the For the People Act**

David VanLuven, Town Supervisor

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Tonight, and I'm sure for many nights to come, I am calling on the U.S. Senate to pass the For the People Act.

This is a national issue, something I do not normally comment on in Town Board meetings, but it is so vital that I wanted to make a public statement tonight.

As American citizens, the right to vote is one of our foundational rights. This right should not depend on one's sex, or race, or economic status, or political ideology. It should not depend on where a person lives, whether in a city, a suburb, or a rural farm. The right to vote is one of the core tenets that defines the United States of America as a great nation.

Across America, however, we're seeing the right to vote under attack by state legislatures that are creating barriers to voters, barriers that are designed to make it harder for Americans to participate in the selection of their elected leaders.

The For the People Act is a comprehensive bill aimed at defining voting rights and election administration, reigning in the power of money and secrecy in politics, and forcing transparency and fairness into redistricting.

This act is based on countless democracy reforms that have been successfully implemented across the country. In other words, it is more than an Act about ideas, it is an act about actions with a track record of success.

I am proud that our Senators, Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, support the For the People Act, and I strongly urge them to make it the first order of business when the U.S. Senate reconvenes, and to make this vital pro-democracy bill into law.