

U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN  
**TERRI SEWELL**  
REPRESENTING ALABAMA'S 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

Dear Friend,

As you know, passing federal legislation to preserve and protect the sacred right to vote continues to be my top priority in Congress. I want to give you an update on my efforts to pass H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and get it signed into law by President Biden.

Today, old battles have become new again as we face the most coordinated assault on the right to vote in generations. According to the [Brennan Center for Justice](#), over 400 bills have been introduced in state legislatures to restrict the right to vote just this year. And in 18 states, 30 of these bills have already become law. These laws don't require Black voters to count the number of jelly beans in a jar, but they are no less pernicious than the poll taxes and literacy tests of our past.

These laws are part of a modern day effort to silence certain voices. They are being passed by extremist politicians who would rather choose their voters than the other way around.



Rep. Terri A. Sewell @Rep... · 8/17/21 ...  
Today, with enormous pride and endless gratitude for those who marched here before me, I will be standing at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama to announce the introduction of #HR4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, in the 117th Congress.



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**The right to vote is under attack, which is why just one month ago, I proudly stood at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge in my hometown of Selma, Alabama, to announce the introduction of H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.**

Click [here](#) to watch my press conference on the introduction of H.R. 4.

H.R. 4 keeps the promise of our democracy alive by restoring critical provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that were gutted by the Supreme Court in its 2013 decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*.

It would prevent states with a recent history of voter discrimination from restricting the right to vote by establishing a new formula for determining which jurisdictions must get their election laws

pre-cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice.

H.R. 4 would also address the Court's decision in *Brnovich v. DNC*, decided this past July, which weakened Section 2 of the VRA and made it more difficult to challenge discriminatory voter laws in court.

Just one week after its introduction, H.R. 4 passed the House of Representatives on August 24, 2021, by a vote of 219-212!



[Click here](#) to watch our press conference following passage of H.R. 4.



Now that this bill has passed the House, I'm calling on Senators to use every tool at their disposal to ensure it passes the Senate and lands on President Biden's desk. Our democracy is at stake, and we have no time to waste.

That's why just a few weeks ago, I joined the Rev. Al Sharpton and Martin Luther King III for the March On for Voting Rights in Washington D.C.

Together, we commemorated the 58th anniversary of the historic March on Washington and called for Senate action on the right to vote.

[Click here](#) to watch me give remarks at the March On for Voting Rights in Washington.

I also hosted a Terri Talk with Rev. Sharpton which you can watch by clicking [here](#).

## REP. SEWELL IN THE NEWS



Click [here](#) to watch my interview with MSNBC's Jonathan Capehart



Click [here](#) to watch my interview on PoliticsNation with Rev. Al Sharpton

This is the fourth time I've introduced a version of the Voting Rights Advancement Act but the first time doing it without my friend, colleague, and mentor, John Lewis. As I cast my vote for the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, I thought of John. I knew he was watching over us as we got into Good Trouble and carried on his legacy.

There are challenges ahead, but I know there's nothing we can't accomplish together. The Foot Soldiers were beaten, clubbed, and some even died for the right to vote. They didn't give up. They didn't get discouraged, and neither will we!

**Soon, the Senate will take up the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. I want you to know that I will not rest until it is passed and signed into law.**

Please be sure to check in regularly with our [website](#) and social media pages ([Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#)) for updates.

As always, take good care.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell



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