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Sierra Club: Congress Has Ninety Days to Undo Harm Done To Texas Voters
Gov. Abbott signs SB 1, restricting voting access to countless Texans

Austin, TX -- On Tuesday, Texas Governor Greg Abbott signed SB 1 into law. The bill was designed to restrict Texans ability to vote, curbing 24-hour polling locations, prohibiting drive-through voting, and criminalizing unintentional mistakes by voters and election officials, and more. The bill was the central aim of the second special session called by Governor Greg Abbott.

SB 1 will go into effect 90 days after it is signed, which gives Congress and President Biden less than three months to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the For The People Act. Doing so would override the majority of the provisions in SB 1, and enable more Texans to vote in next year's midterm elections.

In response, Lone Star Interim Chapter Director Cyrus Reed released the following statement:

"The Jim Crow 2.0 era in Texas is 90 days away. The U.S. Senate must pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the For The People Act very soon, or Texas will become one of the most restrictive anti-democratic states in the union. With more than 29 million citizens' freedom to vote under attack, it cannot be overstated how damaging SB 1 will be to our democracy if the bill goes into effect.

"Texans' ability to hold our elected leaders accountable will be made near impossible if this law goes into effect, which means we will not be able to address the problems most of us agree on, like fixing the energy grid, ending the pandemic, and tackling the climate crisis. It's now up to a handful of U.S. Senators whether or not we can maintain some shred of representative government in Texas."

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