

**NAME OF EVENT:** State of Play: Voter Suppression Bills in the Wake of the 2020 Election

**DATE | TIME | LOCATION:** April 29, 2021 | 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET | Zoom

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** Voting rights are under full assault across the country. In response to unprecedented turnout and post-election turmoil, state legislatures from Georgia to Utah to Iowa have moved quickly to enact laws restricting access to the ballot box, with Texas, Florida, and several other states following right behind. At the same time, the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act continue to make their way through Congress as progressives hope to bring sweeping election reforms to repair some of the damage being done at the state level. How would these federal pieces of legislation interact with the recent spate of suppressive state laws? Are we moving to an American society where one's ability to vote is fully dependent on geography? Given the recent conservative shift of the federal courts, what is the best path forward in protecting voting rights?

**SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:**

*Welcome Remarks:*

**Lindsay Langholz**, Director of Policy and Program, ACS

*Panelists:*

**Garrett Epps**, Legal Affairs Editor, Washington Monthly, *Moderator*

**Atiba Ellis**, Professor of Law, Marquette University Law School

**Edgar Saldivar**, Senior Staff Attorney, ACLU of Texas

**Nick Warren**, Staff Attorney, ACLU of Florida

**Poy Winichakul**, Staff Attorney, Southern Poverty Law Center

**AGENDA OF CONFERENCE CALL:**

5 minutes introduction

30 minutes speakers' presentations

20 minutes Q&A

5 minutes conclusion

**MATERIALS FOR CALL:**

Tal Axelrod, [Florida Voting Restrictions Bill Advances in State Legislature](#), HILL (Apr. 20, 2021)

BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE, [ANNOTATED GUIDE TO THE FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021](#) (last visited Apr. 26, 2021)

Josh Douglas, [To Protect the Right to Vote, Look to State Courts and State Constitutions](#), ACS ISSUE BRIEF (2015).

Dick Durbin, [\*As States Attack Voting Rights, Congress Has to Step In\*](#), CNN (Apr. 20, 2021)

Atiba Ellis, [\*Voter Fraud as an Epistemic Crisis for the Right to Vote\*](#), 71 MERCER L. REV. 757 (2020)

Mark Niese, [\*Absentee Ballot Rejections Declined After Georgia Installed Drop Boxes\*](#), ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION (Apr. 22, 2021)

Daniel Smith, [\*Casting, Rejecting, and Curing Vote-By-Mail Ballots in Florida's 2020 General Election\*](#), ALL VOTING IS LOCAL (2021)

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER, [\*OVERCOMING THE UNPRECEDENTED: SOUTHERN VOTERS' BATTLE AGAINST VOTER SUPPRESSION, INTIMIDATION, AND A VIRUS\*](#) (Mar. 16, 2021)

Alexa Ura, [\*Here's How Texas Elections Would Change, and Become More Restrictive, Under the Bill Texas Republicans Are Pushing\*](#), TEXAS TRIBUNE (Apr. 21, 2021)

[\*Brnovich v. DNC\*](#), 19-1257 (2021)

[\*Shelby County v. Holder\*](#), 570 U.S. 529 (2015)