“Sometimes you have to not just dream about what could be—you get out and push, and you pull, and you preach. And you create a climate and environment to get those in high places, to get men and women of goodwill in power to act.”

~The Honorable John Lewis
DOMINIKA WHITEHEAD
Vice President of Campaigns
Protecting equal and open access to the ballot box

Establishing a collective policy framework

A. Congress must restore the Voting Rights Act by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Act – H.R.4 to help protect voters from racial discrimination and voter suppression.

B. The Biden Administration and Congress must continue to improve minimum standards passed during COVID-19 pandemic to ensure full and safe voter participation.

C. No-fault absentee voting (Mail-In Voting and ballot drop-offs) should be available in every state. We must ensure votes are fairly cast and ballots are also fairly counted.

D. Election Day voting must be safely administered and fully available with sufficient precincts, machines and poll workers to match the number of eligible voters.

E. Early voting should be championed and supported across all states with a minimum of 2 weeks including weekends, extended hours and curbside voting.

F. Guarantee safety of our poll workers by providing CDC compliant COVID-19 protective gear, hazard pay and access to free emergency medical coverage, if needed.
The decision makers

Democrats to hold majority in both Congressional chambers
Results of the 2020 congressional elections

Senate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>50* (+3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>50 (-3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrats</td>
<td>222 (-9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republicans</td>
<td>211 (+10)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Two independent senators currently support the Democrats. The vice president is also Senate president and casts tie-breaking votes. From January 20, 2021, Kamala Harris (Democrat) will be vice president.

Source: AP | ( ) Change to 2016 | January 7, 2021
How to articulate what happened …

• 50 Republicans and 2 Democrats in the U.S. Senate have truly failed the American people. Senator Warnock and Senator Sinema are examples of the divergent perspectives – one who got it right and one who got it wrong.

• We must elect enough political champions who will advance an agenda that prioritizes, above all, policies that ensure that every single voter in our nation can freely and fairly participate in our elections. Our Senators have failed to deliver that system to their constituents.

• Having a 50/50 split in the U.S. Senate is not going to work unless the majority are voting rights champions who are committed to protect the right to vote, regardless of political party - Democrat or Republican.
What is next?

• We must now pivot to states where voter suppression legislation is being proposed or already taking effect.

• State and local voting protections will continue to be gutted by state legislatures across the country with anti-voting bills.

• Grassroots and advocacy organizations will continue to organize and mobilize throughout these harsh times to ensure everyone has access to the ballot box. Not only for the 2022 midterm election but for each and every election.

• We will fight these anti-voter acts of malice towards communities of color on every front: In the courts, on the ground, and in front of the American people.

• Maintain pressure on the White House (Biden-Harris Administration), Congress, Department of Justice, and other federal agencies to protect voting rights, at all costs, and find long-term policy solutions to ensure every American has the right to vote.
Mobilization with intention

- Instagram live series with Principals and targeted US Senators
- Partner member engagement training
- Mobilization events in key US Senate states
- Phone-a-thon to US Senators
- Radio and digital ads in targeted states
- Toolkits for members and general public

WE ARE ON A MISSION.