

## **VOTING**

## THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTICIPATION

Since its founding, our nation has been guided by national principles rooted in a government of the people, by the people, for the people. Our founding fathers conceived a unique concept of national government whereby, not only every vote counts, but every vote matters. Since the early days of our young nation, these principles have guided our electoral process in this National Government. As Americans, our Constitution for the United States of America Republic bestows upon us certain fundamental rights, and among these rights is our right to vote, which is uniquely symbolic of the ability we have as citizens to hold our elected officials accountable. It is through our right to vote that we are able to not only reinforce our freedoms, but can also express our approval or disapproval on a myriad of policies that impact our daily lives.

From national elections that affect decisions directly impacting our community, which can dictate policies affecting all facets of our professional and personal endeavors; our right to vote allows us to have a voice in determining who will represent us when all those important decisions are made. We have all heard the phrase "every vote counts," and while for some this may seem like a sheer slogan used to promote the importance of voting. We all share a fundamental and basic right to hold our representatives accountable and express our views through our vote.

All Nationals and Citizens need to understand that voting is the foundational concept for our National Republic Structure (NRS). When Nationals and Citizens as a collective take responsibility for its race it affirms the notion that we govern ourselves by free choice as a nation. An individual's right to vote ties that person to our social order, even if that person chooses not to exercise that right. Voting represents the beginning; everything else in our republic follows the right to vote. Participation is more than just a value. It is a foundational virtue of our National Government.

Differentiating between protecting an individual's right to vote under their Government per se and merely ensuring equality among individual's voting in other governments, has both theoretical and practical consequences. How should we conceive of and discuss the right to vote and its associated controversies, controversies such as voting in foreign governments and allowing them to rule over you. Indeed, despite our slight divergence on some points, we agree on many aspects of how to analyze issues involving the right to vote. By taking a policy seat in your national government places you in the status as a National Citizen and as a National Citizen you are representing the people.

What makes our country even more unique is that beyond our Government there are no other National Governments on the continent of America and has developed a long-standing and proud tradition of electing officials from amongst its countrymen. We must not lose sight of

voting as the foundational bedrock of this republic. Since voting is so important to the continuance of our nation, then the people should be active in congress. When the people understand the importance of participating in their government and own Legislative body they begin to recognize what other surrounding nations are doing; such things a passing laws to protect the general welfare of the people.

## ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF VOTER ID

Show one of the forms of acceptable identification and sign the poll book to obtain your ballot:

- Identification issued by the U.S.A.R., or an agency of the state;
- Identification issued by the United States of America Republic government or agency thereof;
- Identification issued by an institution of higher education, including a university, college, vocational and technical school, located within the state of U.S.A.R.; or
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that contains the name and address of the voter.

If you do not possess any of these forms of identification, but are a registered voter, you may cast a *provisional ballot*.

Your provisional ballot will count if: (1) you return to your polling place on Election Day with a photo ID; or (2) the signature on your provisional ballot envelope is determined by your local election authority to match the signature on your voter registration record.

If you cast a provisional ballot, you will receive a stub from your provisional ballot envelope with instructions on how to verify that your provisional ballot is counted.



## Be sure to have your voters card present