

Major Corporations Claiming To Support Voting Rights Donated \$174,000 In 2021 To Senate Republicans, Who Collectively Oppose The Freedom To Vote Act

SUMMARY: Senate Republicans are again rejecting calls to expand voting rights after it was announced that Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell [announced](#) Republicans would not vote for the Freedom To Vote Act. This landmark piece of legislation would especially help marginalized groups: it would [restore](#) voting rights to formerly incarcerated individuals, ensure people with disabilities have equal access to absentee ballots, and prohibits long wait times to vote—which largely impacts black and Latino voters—among other provisions.

Several companies that publicly support voting rights have donated **\$174,000** in 2021 alone to the Senate Republicans who are so vehemently against the expansion of access to the ballot:

- **Verizon** opined the importance of expanding the vote, but this year donated **\$87,000** to Senate Republicans.
- **Target** co-signed a letter urging Congress to pass voting rights reform legislation, but still donated a total of **\$30,500** to Senate Republicans who oppose any of those reforms.
- **Amazon** spoke out against legislation enacting discriminatory voting restrictions but this year donated **\$28,000** Republican Senators who refuse to support the Freedom to Vote Act.
- **Citigroup's Head Of Global Public Affairs, Edward Skyler**, said on LinkedIn that the company believed in the right to vote and opposed efforts to undermine the ability of Americans to exercise this right, but the company still gave **\$10,000** to Senate Republicans.
- **Walgreens' Boot Alliance** claimed to support secure, and fair access to voting, but this year still donated **\$8,500** to Republicans who will not support the Freedom to Vote Act.
- **Walmart** claimed to they supported increased voter participation, but the company still donated **\$10,000** to Republicans this year.

Corporate hypocrisy is on display yet again as these companies publicly make platitudes supporting voting rights while they bolster the coffers of the politicians currently blocking voting reform legislation from passing.

September 2021: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell Announced Republicans Would Not Support The Freedom To Vote Act Even Though It Would Help Marginalized Communities.

September 2021: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell Announced Republicans Would Not Support The Freedom To Vote Act.

September 2021: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell Announced Republicans Would Not Support The Freedom To Vote Act. “Yesterday, Congress' minority party was even more efficient. Senate Democrats unveiled their Freedom to Vote Act in the morning, and by the afternoon, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell had already told reporters that Republicans will not support it.” [MSNBC, [9/15/21](#)]

The Freedom To Vote Act Would Restore Voting Rights To Formally Incarcerated Individuals, Ensure People With Disabilities “Have The Same Access To Absentee Ballots As Other Voters,” And Counters “Long Lines And Related Discriminatory Practices.”

Brennan Center For Justice: “The Freedom To Vote Act Represents A Major Step Forward In The Push To Enact Comprehensive Legislation To Strengthen American Democracy, Promote Racial Justice And Equity For All Americans.” “The Freedom to Vote Act represents a major step forward in the push to enact comprehensive legislation to strengthen American democracy, promote racial justice and equity for all Americans, and thwart the assault on voting rights taking place in the states. It would set national standards to protect the freedom to vote, end partisan redistricting, ensure sound election administration, and fix our broken campaign finance system.” [Brennan Center for Justice, [9/20/21](#)]

The Freedom To Vote Act Would Restore “Federal Voting Rights To Formerly Incarcerated Citizens Upon Their Release” And Removes “The Vestiges Of Restrictions Born Out Of Jim Crow.” “The Freedom to Vote Act represents a major step forward in the push to enact comprehensive legislation to strengthen American democracy, promote racial justice and equity for all Americans, and thwart the assault on voting rights taking place in the states. [...]The bill restores federal voting rights to formerly incarcerated citizens upon their release, establishing a bright-line standard to replace the confusing patchwork of state laws and removing the vestiges of restrictions born out of Jim Crow.” [Brennan Center for Justice, [9/20/21](#)]

The Freedom To Vote Act “Would Require Each State To Ensure That Individuals With Disabilities Have The Same Access To Absentee Ballots And Applications As Other Voters, As Well As Making Them Electronically Accessible To Voters With Disabilities.” “The Freedom to Vote Act would address some of the biggest challenges to voting access that Americans with disabilities face. The bill would require each state to ensure that individuals with disabilities have the same access to absentee ballots and applications as other voters, as well as making them electronically accessible to voters with disabilities, among other safeguards.” [Brennan Center for Justice, [9/20/21](#)]

The Freedom To Vote Act Counters “Long Lines And Related Discriminatory Practices” by ensuring “Lines Last No Longer Than 30 Minutes” So That “Individuals Subjected To Excessive Lines On Election Day — Most Often Black And Latino Voters —” Are Protected From That Discrimination “Countering long lines and related discriminatory practices: The bill creates protections for individuals subjected to excessive lines on Election Day — most often Black and Latino voters — by requiring states to ensure that lines last no longer than 30 minutes and restricting states from prohibiting donations of food or water to voters waiting in line.” [Brennan Center for Justice, [9/20/21](#)]

Verizon Posted A Blog On The Importance Of Expanding Americans’ Access To The Vote While, In 2021, The Company So Far Donated \$87,000 To Senate Republicans.

Verizon Blogged About The Importance Of Expanding The Vote, Saying They “Strongly Oppose The Passage Of Any Measure That Would Make It Harder For Voters.

HEADLINE: Reflecting On Voting Rights. [Verizon News Center, [4/1/21](#)]

Verizon’s Hans Vestberg: “We Strongly Oppose The Passage Of Any Legislation Or The Adoption Of Any Measure That Would Make It Harder For Voters, Including Historically Marginalized Groups — People Of Color, Seniors, Students And People With Disabilities — To Exercise Their Fundamental Right To Cast A Ballot.” “At Verizon, we believe that speaking out on social issues is how we live out our values. If an issue is important to our stakeholders — our employees, our customers, our shareholders and

society — it’s important to us. As you’ve heard me say, our purpose is to create the networks that move the world forward, which means moving the world forward for everyone. That’s why I’ve also been reflecting on the voting rights issue that has recently emerged. We strongly oppose the passage of any legislation or the adoption of any measure that would make it harder for voters, including historically marginalized groups — people of color, seniors, students and people with disabilities — to exercise their fundamental right to cast a ballot.” [Verizon News Center, [4/1/21](#)]

So Far During 2021, Verizon Has Contributed \$87,000 To Senate Republicans.

RECIPIENT	CONTRIBUTOR	AMOUNT	DATE	AFFILIATED CANDIDATE
Boozman For Arkansas	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	3/1/21	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
Boozman For Arkansas	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	3/29/21	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
Arkansas For Leadership Political Action Committee (ARKPAC)	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$2,500	3/29/21	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
Friends Of John Barrasso	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	3/29/21	Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)
Common Values PAC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	3/29/21	Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)
Friends Of John Thune	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$500	3/29/21	Sen. John Thune (R-SD)
Heartland Values PAC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	3/29/21	Sen. John Thune (R-SD)
Deb Fischer For US Senate	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	4/22/21	Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NE)
Friends Of Mike Lee Inc.	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$2,000	4/22/21	Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)
Grassley Committee, Inc.	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	4/22/21	Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
Making A Responsible Stand For Households In America PAC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	4/22/21	Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)
Reclaim America PAC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	4/22/21	Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)
True North PAC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	4/22/21	Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska)
Wild & Wonderful PAC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	4/22/21	Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)

Bluegrass Committee	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	5/20/21	Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
NRSC	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$15,000	5/20/21	-
Boozman For Arkansas	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$3,000	6/28/21	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
Boozman For Arkansas	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,500	6/28/21	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
Families For James Lankford	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,000	6/28/21	Sen. James Lankford (R-OK)
Families For James Lankford	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,500	6/28/21	Sen. James Lankford (R-OK)
Hoeven For Senate	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	6/28/21	Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND)
Lisa Murkowski For US Senate	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,500	6/28/21	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Lisa Murkowski For US Senate	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	6/28/21	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Moran For Kansas	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$5,000	6/28/21	Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Rely On Your Beliefs Fund	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$2,500	6/28/21	Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO)
Tim Scott For Senate	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$1,500	6/28/21	Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)
Tim Scott For Senate	Verizon Communications, Inc. Political Action Committee	\$3,500	6/28/21	Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)
TOTAL:		\$87,000		

Target Co-Signed A Letter Urging Congress To pass Voting Rights Reform Legislation While, In 2021, It So Far Donated \$30,500 To Senate Republicans.

Target Co-Signed A Letter Urging Congress To Pass Voting Rights Reform Legislation Amending The Voting Rights Act To Restore Safeguards.

Target Co-Signed “A Letter Urging The U.S. Congress To Pass A Sweeping Voting Reforms Bill,” And “Amend The Voting Rights Act To Restore Necessary Safeguards.” “Minnesota-based Target and Best Buy are among the more than 150 companies that have signed onto a letter urging the U.S. Congress to pass a sweeping voting reforms bill. ‘Congress needs to amend the Voting Rights Act to restore necessary safeguards by updating the Voting Rights Act’s coverage formula to prevent voting discrimination, as well as

establish a more transparent and accountable system for states to report election law changes,” the letter reads. “Legislation amending the Voting Rights Act must help ensure that voters of color who remain the targets of voter suppression have equal and unfettered access to the democratic process.” [WCCO. [7/15/21](#)]

RECIPIENT	CONTRIBUTOR	AMOUNT	DATE	AFFILIATED CANDIDATE
Rounds For Senate	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$2,500	7/21/21	Sen. Mike Rounds (R-SD)
Lisa Murkowski For US Senate	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$2,500	7/21/21	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Bill Cassidy For US Senate	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$2,500	7/21/21	Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)
Ben Sasse For U.S. Senate, Inc.	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$2,500	7/21/21	Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE)
Tim Scott For Senate	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$5,000	6/15/21	Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)
Moran For Kansas	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$3,000	6/15/21	Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)
McConnell Senate Committee	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$5,000	6/15/21	Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
Friends Of John Thune	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$2,000	6/15/21	Sen. John Thune (R-SD)
Cramer For Senate	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$2,500	6/15/21	Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)
Capito For West Virginia	Target Corporation Citizens Political Forum	\$3,000	6/15/21	Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
TOTAL:		\$30,500		

Amazon Spoke Out Against Legislators Enacting More Restrictive Voting Legislation While, In 2021, The Company So Far Gave Over \$28,000 To Republican Senators.

Amazon Signed A Statement Opposed To Discriminatory Restrictive Voting Legislation.

Amazon “Signed On To A Statement Opposing ‘Any Discriminatory Legislation’ That Would Make It More Difficult For Americans To Vote.” “Hundreds of companies, such as Apple, Amazon, BlackRock, and Facebook, and executives, Warren Buffett among them, have signed on to a statement opposing ‘any discriminatory legislation’ that would make it more difficult for Americans to vote. The statement, which ran as a two-page ad in the New York Times and the Washington Post on Wednesday, is the strongest message yet in a heightening fight between Republican legislators who seek to implement more restrictive voting laws and the corporations who oppose them.” [Fortune, [4/14/21](#)]

So Far During 2021, Amazon PAC Donated \$28,500 To Senate Republicans.

RECIPIENT	CONTRIBUTOR	AMOUNT	DATE	AFFILIATED CANDIDATE
Alaskans For Dan Sullivan	Amazon PAC	\$5,000	06/16/2021	Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
Ben Sasse For U.S. Senate, Inc.	Amazon PAC	\$2,500	05/19/2021	Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE)

Friends of John Thune	Amazon PAC	\$5,000	06/16/2021	Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.)
Friends Of Mike Lee Inc	Amazon PAC	\$2,500	05/21/2021	Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT)
Grassley Committee, Inc.	Amazon PAC	\$5,000	05/19/2021	Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
Lisa Murkowski For US Senate	Amazon PAC	\$7,500	04/30/2021	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
TOTAL:		\$28,500		

Citigroup’s Head Of Public Affairs Claimed The Company Believed Strongly In The Right To Vote While, In 2021, Company So Far Gave \$10,000 To Republican Senators.

Citigroup’s Head Of Global Public Affairs, Edward Skyler, Said On LinkedIn That The Company Believed In The Right To Vote And Opposed Efforts To Undermine The Ability Of Americans To Exercise This Right.

Citigroup’s Head Of Global Public Affairs, Edward Skyler, Said On LinkedIn That “The Company Believes ‘The Right To Vote Is The Foundation Of American Democracy’ And ‘Strongly’ Opposes ‘Efforts To Undermine’ That Right. “Citi was also listed as participating in the April 6 meeting, according to the agenda. In a LinkedIn post last month, Citi’s Head of Global Public Affairs, Edward Skyler, said the company believes ‘the right to vote is the foundation of American democracy’ and ‘strongly’ opposes ‘efforts to undermine the ability of Americans to avail themselves of this fundamental right.’” [Popular Information, [5/17/21](#)]

So Far During 2021, Citigroup Inc. Political Action Committee - Federal Donated \$10,000 To Senate Republicans.

RECIPIENT	CONTRIBUTOR	AMOUNT	DATE	AFFILIATED CANDIDATE
Boozman for Arkansas	Citigroup Inc. Political Action Committee - Federal	\$2,500	06/22/2021	Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
Friends of John Thune	Citigroup Inc. Political Action Committee – Federal	\$2,500	06/22/2021	Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.)
McConnell Senate Committee	Citigroup Inc. Political Action Committee – Federal	\$2,500	08/19/2021	Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
Rounds for Senate	Citigroup Inc. Political Action Committee - Federal	\$2,000	08/19/2021	Sen. Mike Rounds (R-S.D.)
TOTAL:		\$10,000		

Walgreens Boots Alliance Claimed It Deeply Supported Access To Secure And Fair Elections While, In 2021, The Company So Far Gave Almost \$10,000 To Republican Senators.

Walgreens Boots Alliance Put Out A Statement Claiming It Deeply Valued Secure, Fair Access To Voting.

Walgreens Boots Alliance Said It Deeply Valued Secure And Fair Access To Voting, Adding That “Each Eligible Voter Should Be Able To Exercise This Right To The Fullest.” “Walgreens Boots Alliance deeply values equal rights and opportunities for all Americans. As part of this commitment, we believe strongly that the secure, fair access to voting is a fundamental constitutional right, and each eligible voter should be able to exercise this right to the fullest. A thriving democracy reflecting the will of all people indisputably makes our country stronger, and has helped Walgreens to become the company we are today – one that proudly serves the health and wellbeing needs of a wide diversity of communities across the U.S. in more than 9,000 locations.” [Walgreens Boots Alliance, Accessed [10/15/21](#)]

So Far During 2021, Walgreen Co PAC Donated \$8,500 To Senate Republicans.

RECIPIENT	CONTRIBUTOR	AMOUNT	DATE	AFFILIATED CANDIDATE
Friends of Todd Young, Inc.	Walgreen Co PAC	\$1,000	03/24/2021	Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)
Moran for Kansas	Walgreen Co PAC	\$5,000	05/14/2021	Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Continuing America's Strength And Security	Walgreen Co PAC	\$2,500	06/29/2021	Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)
TOTAL:		\$8,500		

Walmart Has Vocally Supported Increased Voter Participation While, In 2021, The Company So Far Gave \$10,000 To Republican Senators.

Walmart Put Out A Statement Claiming It Was Helping Ensure Voters Had Information They Needed And Said It Supported Increased Voter Participation.

Walmart Claimed To Support Expanded Voter Participation And Said It Was Committed To Ensuring “Voters Have The Information They Need To Cast Their Ballots.” “Elections are an opportunity for all of us to make our voices heard on the issues we care about in our communities. That’s why Walmart is helping ensure that voters have the information they need to cast their ballots when they have local, state, or federal elections. We continue to providing resources to our customers and associates and partner with Time To Vote, a business-led, nonpartisan coalition that aims to increase voter participation in elections.” [Walmart, Accessed [10/15/21](#)]

So Far During 2021, Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government Donated \$10,000 To Senate Republicans.

RECIPIENT	CONTRIBUTOR	AMOUNT	DATE	AFFILIATED CANDIDATE
Lisa Murkowski For US Senate	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$1,000	02/09/2021	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Boozman For Arkansas	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$2,500	03/26/2021	Sen. John Boozman (R-AK)
Friends Of John Thune	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$1,000	03/16/2021	Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.)

Hoeven For Senate	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$1,000	03/26/2021	Sen. John Hoeven (R-N.D.)
Lisa Murkowski For US Senate	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$1,000	03/16/2021	Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Marco Rubio For Senate	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$2,500	03/26/2021	Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)
Moran For Kansas	Walmart Inc. PAC For Responsible Government	\$1,000	03/16/2021	Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Total		\$10,000		