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The National Black Caucus of State Legislators Congratulates the House for Passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act

Washington, D.C. – August 26, 2021 – The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL)

The National Black Caucus of State Legislators congratulates Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi and others in leadership for making this historic and landmark effort to protect Americans' right to vote. We take this opportunity to recognize the countless number of citizens and grass root organizations who have worked tirelessly in the fight to protect the right to vote. We urge the Senate to honor their hard work and sacrifice through final passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

In its current form, HR 4 would restore the pre-clearance formula from the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which was struck down by the Supreme Court in 2013. Through passing this measure, the House of Representatives moves our nation one step closer to fulfilling America's promise of a fair and representative democracy.

"There is no such thing as a perfect bill, but it is our hope and belief that this bill, in its current form, secures and protects a citizen's right to vote. Most importantly, we are confident that the bill in its current form, serves as an appropriate countermeasure to state led efforts to disenfranchise black and brown voters", said Georgia State Representative Billy Mitchell, NBCSL President.

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The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) is the nation's premier organization representing and serving the interests of African American State legislators. With more than 700 members representing over 60 million Americans, NBCSL serves as a national network, advocate and catalyst for public policy innovation, information exchange, and joint action on critical issues affecting African Americans and other marginalized communities. Since 1977, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators has served its members by developing, conducting and promoting educational, research and training programs designed to enhance the effectiveness of black state legislators, and protecting the voting rights of our Members' constituents is a crucial part of our work.