



A Dangerous Step Backward And A Call to Organize Forward: Community Coalition's Statement on the SCOTUS' Decision in Louisiana v Callais

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Loa Angeles—At a time when erasure, erosion and **eradication** are plaguing our communities, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision is a dangerous step backward for our democracy. By weakening the core protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Court has all but nullified the people's right to challenge racial discrimination in voting, further weakening our present-day fight to be seen, heard, and represented.

When legal protections are rolled back, our communities bear the burden. To be clear, this ruling does not just impact states in the South. It opens the door for efforts across the country including here in California, where our organizing efforts flipped the Golden State from red to blue. It makes it easier to redraw lines to silence and divide us.

We know our representation has always been hard fought and hard won from poll tax, to literacy tests to ICE at election centers. We know this moment demands vigilance and action because what's at stake is the ability to elect leaders who reflect our values and fight for our needs—from housing and education to public safety and economic justice. But we also know that when we fight, **WE** win because our power has never come from the courts alone. It has come from showing up, and building multiracial coalitions and solidarity. It comes from organizing the people.

Community Coalition will always work alongside our residents, partners, and allies to protect our communities, strengthen our democracy, and ensure that the voices of everyday people continue to be heard.