



UNITY OF GAITHERSBURG
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF VOTING RIGHTS

Together, Unity of Gaithersburg holds a vision of peace, harmony and love for our nation. Unity of Gaithersburg is committed to honoring all people, practicing accountability and transparency, and supporting connection and active engagement with the community and our nation. We continue to hold the high watch, knowing our light and our love can uplift and make a difference! May wisdom and compassion prevail in all decisions and in all circumstances. Therefore, we offer the following resolution.

Whereas, curtailment of early voting, elimination of same-day registration, reduction in the number of polling places, vote dilution tactics, and needlessly cumbersome vote ID laws are common means of restricting the expression of the political voice of those of low income and people of color; and, without federal protection, these changes perpetuate the marginalization of historically disenfranchised groups so that those in power can maintain social and political advantages without democratic accountability; and,

Whereas, we recognize the legacy of voter suppression and its ties to racism in the United States; and,

Whereas, we seek equality in Maryland and across all states and jurisdictions;

Now, therefore it is

Resolved, that Unity of Gaithersburg, in support of broad voter enfranchisement,

Affirms the need for a modern, flexible, and forward-looking statute such as the Voting Rights Advancement Act to protect voting rights by modernizing the preclearance formula to cover states with a pattern of discrimination that puts voters at risk; and,

Affirms that inclusive voting rights are fundamental to democracy; and,

Affirms that every adult citizen has the right to participate in the governance of the society in which they reside through the choice of representatives regardless of race, gender, sex, national origin, religion, disability, or political affiliation; and,

Affirms its support for the elimination of unnecessarily burdensome voter photo ID laws, which are barriers to the ballot box disproportionately impacting our most vulnerable citizens without evidenced reduction in voter fraud; and,

Affirms its support for federal regulation and oversight of election administration to achieve consistency across states and districts.

Unity of Gaithersburg Board of Trustees