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## **OPPOSITION TO VOTER SUPPRESSION**

**WHEREAS:** The right to vote is the cornerstone of democracy;

**WHEREAS:** The right to vote is threatened by voter suppression;

**WHEREAS:** The U.S. Supreme Court dramatically curtailed the Voting Rights Act in its Shelby County v. Holder ruling by limiting federal pre-approval of changes to states' voting procedures;

**WHEREAS:** Voter suppression laws have proliferated in Republican-led states since Shelby County v. Holder; and

**WHEREAS:** Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted is a leader in efforts to suppress legal voting, including his 2016 decision to purge two million names from voting rolls and a 2012 attempt to restrict early voting; and

**WHEREAS:** Voter suppression attacks include shuttering voting locations, limiting voter registration, restricting early voting, curtailing absentee voting, erecting barriers targeted at non-white voters, creating obstacles for legal immigrant voters, targeting Indian reservations, and other activities; and

**WHEREAS:** Voter suppression targets people of color, the elderly, disabled people, the poor, the homeless, workers on the night shift, workers with two or more jobs, and those who need transportation to get to the polls; and

**WHEREAS:** new laws that require government issued photo IDs have been proven to limit voting by people of color, the elderly, disabled people, the poor, and the homeless because they make it difficult for those who do not have the time or cannot afford the cost of getting these documents; and

**THEREFORE BE IT BE RESOLVED:** That the Ohio AFL-CIO will fight to protect the right to vote.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The Ohio AFL-CIO opposes voter suppression efforts including limiting access to voter registration, restricting early voting, and Election Day restrictions.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED:** The Ohio AFL-CIO supports the Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R. 2867 and S. 1659), which would address *Shelby County v. Holder* and restore Section 5 coverage to the Voting Rights Act.

**Submitted by: TWU Ohio State Council**