

For Immediate Release

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Wisconsin Voices Assails GOP Vote to End Same-Day Registration

MILWAUKEE—Wisconsin Voices denounced the vote to end same-day voter registration this past weekend by delegates to the Republican Party of Wisconsin’s convention.

“We should make it easier for people to vote in a democracy, not harder,” said Shauntay Nelson, the Democracy Director at Wisconsin Voices, a coalition of 53 good government and grassroots groups.

“This is just the latest push by the Republican Party of Wisconsin to set up high hurdles on the way to the voting booth,” Nelson added, citing the Voter ID law and the effort to limit early voting.

Doing so would adversely affect hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin citizens. In the 2016 general election, for instance, 381,444 Wisconsinites registered to vote on Election Day, according to the Wisconsin Election Commission.

Ending same-day voter registration would also cost Wisconsin taxpayers. Five years ago, the Government Accountability Board estimated that the tab would be \$14.5 million.

At the GOP state convention, which was held in Milwaukee, there was an additional push to make it more difficult for some people to cast a ballot: Delegates voted in favor a resolution to require “temporary residents” to vote in their place of permanent residence.

“This one was clearly aimed at students and younger voters,” said Nelson. “Both of these resolutions are shameful attacks on civic participation and the bedrock principle of our democracy: that every citizen has the right to vote.”

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