



POWER PLEDGE

For Disabled Voters And Allies

Whereas: Systemic barriers prevent people with disabilities from voting at the same rates as non-disabled people.

- In 2016, 60% of polling locations surveyed by the federal government across the country had at least one barrier to physical access or to private, independent voting for people in need of accommodations.
- **More than 20,000 polling places across the country are inaccessible in one way or another.**
- If disabled people voted at the same rate as non-disabled people, as many as two million more votes would be cast in national elections.

And whereas: **many disabled voters face other barriers to voting.** In the United States, rates of disability are higher among Black and Indigenous people as well as members of the LGBTQ+ community. And all of these identities overlap disproportionately with poverty and experience with incarceration. People living under these unjust systems have reduced or no voting power due to:

- uneven geographic distribution of polls
- inadequate early voting
- unfair partisan redistricting
- punitive voter identification requirements.
- voter registration limits and purges
- other measures to suppress the vote.

And whereas: To engage every citizen in our democracy, **everyone must have the right to vote in ways that are convenient and accessible to them.**

I, therefore, as an elected official/candidate for elected office, hereby take the following **Power Pledge for Disabled Voters and Allies:**

Institutions that fully include disabled people are fairer, more accountable, safe, and compassionate for everyone. Equitable access to voting is essential for every member of society. Disabled people, like all people systematically excluded from power, must have the ability to vote and to have our votes counted.

I pledge to support legislation that advances equity for disabled people, and to oppose legislation and other efforts to suppress the votes of disabled people or other members of our society.

Signed: _____ Printed Name: _____

Office held or sought: _____ Date: _____