

Resolution Condemning Louisiana v. Callais and Defending the Voting Rights of Black and Brown Communities

Submitted by:

Patrick Brown, State Committee Person, Legislative District 11, Maricopa County

Submitted to: Arizona Democratic Party

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States held in Louisiana v. Callais that the Voting Rights Act did not require Louisiana to create an additional majority-minority congressional district and that no compelling interest justified the state's race-conscious redistricting remedy, striking down the map as an unconstitutional racial gerrymander;¹

WHEREAS, Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act prohibits any voting qualification, standard, practice, or procedure that results in the denial or abridgment of the right to vote on account of race or color, and establishes a violation when political processes are not equally open to members of a protected class;²

WHEREAS, voting rights advocates, legal analysts, and civil rights observers have warned that the Court's decision weakens Section 2 protections and makes it harder for Black, Latino, Indigenous, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and other communities of color to challenge racially discriminatory vote dilution;³

WHEREAS, Arizona's history and future are shaped by diverse Black and Brown communities whose voting strength must not be divided, diluted, or dismissed through historically racist legal theories that treat remedies for racial discrimination as more dangerous than the discrimination itself; and

WHEREAS, this decision is steeped in a long history of racial exclusion from the franchise and gives political actors a roadmap to limit the voting power of millions of American citizens based on race while hiding behind claims of colorblindness;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arizona Democratic Party strongly condemns the Supreme Court's decision in Louisiana v. Callais as a direct attack on the Voting Rights Act, representative democracy, and the constitutional promise that every citizen's vote should carry equal weight;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Arizona Democratic Party affirms that racial vote dilution is voter suppression by another name and stands with Black and Brown communities in Arizona and across the nation against any effort to fracture, pack, dilute, or erase their political power; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Arizona Democratic Party calls on Congress, state leaders, local elected officials, county parties, legislative district organizations, and Democratic candidates to defend and strengthen voting rights protections, oppose racially discriminatory

redistricting, and ensure that communities of color have a meaningful opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.

Resolution Submitted by:

Patrick Brown on behalf of the African American Caucus and Black Engagement Committee - Maricopa County Democrats

Footnotes / APA Citations:

1. Supreme Court of the United States. (2026). Louisiana v. Callais, 608 U.S. ____ (2026). The Court held that Louisiana's use of race in drawing an additional majority-minority congressional district was not justified by Section 2 compliance and affirmed the lower court judgment.
2. Voting Rights Act of 1965, 52 U.S.C. § 10301. Section 2 prohibits voting practices that result in denial or abridgment of voting rights on account of race or color and defines a violation based on unequal political opportunity.
3. Howe, A. (2026, April 29). Louisiana v. Callais (Voting Rights Act) (24-109). SCOTUSblog. Reuters also reported that legal experts and civil rights advocates viewed the ruling as a major weakening of Section 2 protections and part of the Roberts Court's broader rollback of the Voting Rights Act.