

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: DLCC President Heather Williams
FROM: Moving Forward in a post-VRA environment
DATE: June 8, 2026

The gutting of the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court is a grievous erosion of civil rights, reversing generations of progress toward a fair and equal democracy. This ruling dismantles the cornerstone of the Civil Rights movement, erases decades of hard-won political representation, and opens the floodgates for Republicans' systematic disenfranchisement of communities of color as they redraw maps for their own political benefit and gains. Alongside Trump's mid-decade redistricting push, the *Callais* decision has increased the urgency and importance of building state power like never before, and our statehouses are now the most critical battlegrounds for the future of our democracy.

The DLCC has been planning and preparing for this moment, and our national strategy is the roadmap to meet these attacks head-on.

Since the start of the decade, the DLCC has been the only committee examining the full landscape of power in the states, with full consideration of the impacts of redistricting across all ballot levels. We have anticipated and adapted to meet Trump's mid-decade redistricting efforts and the conservative Supreme Court head-on, and we have sounded the alarm to stakeholders and partners to do the same. Whether for the immediate impacts in 2026 and 2028 on the U.S. House majority or for the longer-term build for the 2030 redistricting cycle, ***the DLCC's national strategy and Target Map were built for this moment.***



The DLCC's [Target Map](#) identifies the best opportunities in 2026 to grow power

The New Redistricting Landscape

Our strategy and Target Map chart the path in this new landscape, prioritizing opportunities to build power both now and for the future. By winning key races, flipping majorities, and putting more Democrats in power, the DLCC is building the power needed to counteract GOP gerrymandering.

DLCC's Redistricting Battlegrounds

There are six states where highly competitive legislative majorities will have the most direct or potential impact on redistricting for both 2028 and 2030. Building power for Democrats in these states is essential for putting all options on the table for Democrats or for cutting off Republicans' ability to further gerrymander. The DLCC is already on the ground in each of these states, working with our partners to make the data-driven decisions about where to invest for paths to power and deploying resources to where they will go furthest:

	Arizona*	Michigan*	Minnesota	New Hampshire	Pennsylvania	Wisconsin
State House Status:	GOP Majority 27 D - 33 R	GOP Majority 52 D - 58 R	Tied Chamber 67 R - 67 D	GOP Majority 177 D - 221 R	DEM Majority 102 D - 101 R	GOP Majority 45 D - 54 R
State Senate Status:	GOP Majority 13 D - 17 R	DEM Majority 20 D - 18 R	DEM Majority 34 D - 33 R	GOP Majority 8 D - 16 R	GOP Majority 23 D - 27 R	GOP Majority 15 D - 18 R

**Arizona and Michigan both currently have independent redistricting commissions, but with Republicans threatening lawsuits and bills to overturn commissions, Democrats cannot let their guard down.*

There are three additional DLCC target states in which supermajorities are a relevant benchmark of power for redistricting implications for 2028 and 2030. In these states, supermajorities are currently needed to either give Democrats the legislative power to redistrict by amending their state constitutions or to overcome vetoes:

	Nevada	Oregon	Washington
State House Status:	DEM Majority 27 D - 15 R	DEM Majority 37 D - 23 R	DEM Majority 59 D - 39 R
State Senate Status:	DEM Majority 13 D - 8 R	DEM Majority 18 D - 12 R	DEM Majority 30 D - 19 R

“Redistricting is no longer a once-in-a-decade conversation. If you care about federal power, state legislatures matter now and they matter in every single election.”

Finally, there are four states with hard-won Democratic majorities where legislative avenues to redistricting exist by amending state constitutions or putting the question to voters. In several of these states, efforts to influence redistricting for 2028 and 2030 are already underway, and the DLCC will continue to ensure Democrats defend and maintain our power in these statehouses:

	Colorado	Maryland	New York	New Jersey
State House Status:	DEM Majority 43 D - 22 R	DEM Supermajority 102 D - 39 R	DEM Supermajority 103 D - 47 R	DEM Supermajority 57 D - 23 R
State Senate Status:	DEM Majority 23 D - 12 R	DEM Supermajority 34 D - 13 R	DEM Majority 41 D - 22 R	DEM Majority 25 D - 15 R

Building Power For the Future

As the DLCC's strategy prioritizes states with the most immediate redistricting impacts, we are also fighting back in states where Republicans are currently attempting to tighten their grip. 2026 remains a once-in-a-generation positive electoral environment for Democrats, and we must take full advantage of this opportunity to increase Democrats' power in states all across the country. Our ability to go on offense in this year's environment is not only important for power in 2026, but will have an enormous impact on the power we can build through the end of the decade and wield in the post-2030 redistricting process.

The DLCC's latest data analysis continues to show a clear path to flip hundreds of seats and multiple chambers across the country. Just 19 seat flips would build four new trifectas and six new majorities.

Initial battleground polls alongside many special election results have reinforced a +4 percentage point advantage in the current environment, and we are cautiously optimistic that with strong candidates and campaigns, this environment will continue to improve.

Investing In DLCC's National Strategy

State legislative races share a similar array of tactics to any up-ballot race, including broadcast (where efficient), cable, CTV/streaming, digital, direct mail, SMS, phones, and field. In a crowded environment, state legislative races need to be well-funded to break through their up-ballot competition in paid communication when the cost of that communication is the same regardless of the ballot level, and the DLCC plays a unique role to maximize the impact of every dollar it raises:

- DLCC has strict standards and data-based requirements for our programs and investments. We cannot afford to waste dollars on long-shot hopes or inefficient targeting; we focus on where the data shows there is a path to victory.
- We deploy early money in the first half of the year as seed money, investing in the staff, tools, and resources to help our in-state programs establish and generate their own income. Our ability to provide support is a multiplier over the course of the year.
- We have the widest network of entities and a 50-state compliance structure to ensure an efficient navigation of the wide array of campaign finance rules and restrictions at this ballot level. The best way to fund a national strategy is with a strong central hub.

DLCC has strict standards and data-based requirements for our programs and investments. Every dollar raised between now and mid-summer supports ad buys and research that are more effective now than in the late fall, and allows the DLCC to bridge cash flow for our programs, allowing them to optimize their strategic decision-making to win the most power possible.