

Welcome to the

Indivisible  HoCoMD

2021 Fall Membership Meeting

We will start at 2pm – see you soon!

DEMOCRACY - What we *MUST* do to save it



Indivisible  HoCoMD

2021 Fall Membership Meeting

Meeting Logistics

- Attendees are muted with cameras off during the main meeting
- We recommend setting your zoom to “Speaker View”
- Please use the chat to ask questions or to chat with other members. Please be respectful – hurtful comments will result in immediate ejection from the meeting.
- This meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the IndivisibleHoCoMD website. We will send the slide deck to everyone who registered for the meeting.

Today's Agenda

- ❖ IndivisibleHoCoMD's Mission
- ❖ Introducing IndivisibleHoCoMD's new Coordinator, Tim Lattimer
- ❖ The threat to Democracy: a message from Walter Shaub, Project On Government Oversight
- ❖ Endurance Activism: Working for long-term change
- ❖ IndivisibleHoCoMD Action Teams plans for 2022
- ❖ Open Discussion

Who We Are

IndivisibleHoCoMD is an informal group of residents in Howard County, MD who believe in fairness, tolerance, inclusion, and democracy.

Our Mission

To increase effective citizen engagement in the democratic processes that enable responsible self-governance, and to drive real change to

- Enact the reforms described in HR-1, HR-4, and HR-51 and similar legislation at the local, state, and national level to protect all citizens' right to vote, enhance voter access, and ensure fairness and equal representation in elections
- Take action to democratize the media and hold it accountable to provide truthful balanced information to the public
- Enact laws and policies to ensure racial justice, fair treatment of immigrants, universal access to affordable healthcare, education and economic opportunity, and an aggressive response to the Climate Emergency
- Increase the number of elected representatives who support democracy

Our Strategy

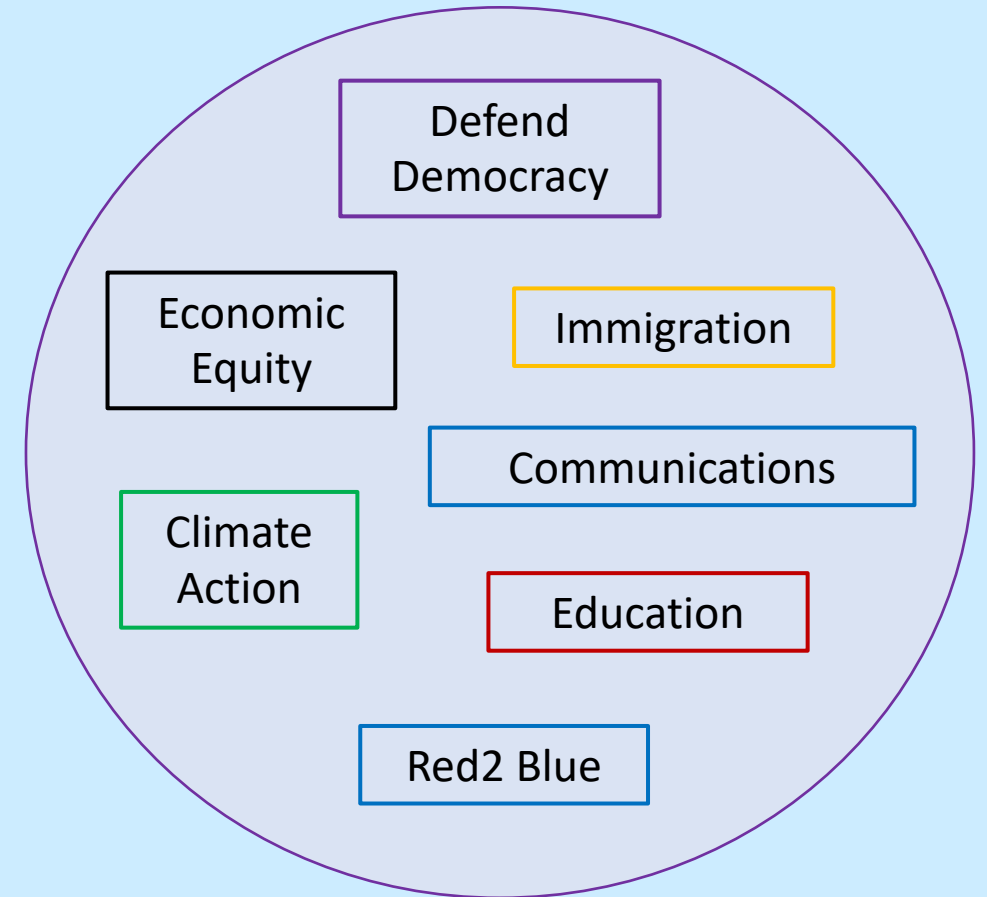
1) Engage fully in democracy

**The most common way people give up their power
is by thinking they don't have any.**

-Alice Walker

2) Decentralized organizing through Action Teams

3) Acting together



Levers of Change



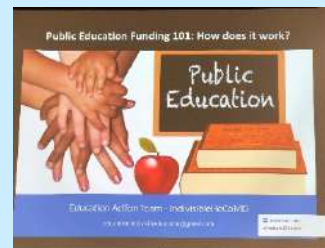
***Constituent
power***

***Election
mobilization***

**Political
Change**



Moving public opinion



Transitions



Please welcome
IndivisibleHoCoMD's new Coordinator



Tim Lattimer!

The Threat to Democracy



A message from Walter Shaub Jr.,
Senior Ethics Advisor at the Project for Government Oversight

The Threat to Democracy

A message from Walter Shaub Jr.,
Senior Ethics Advisor at the Project for Government Oversight

Our Role in Protecting Democracy

Discussion time!

Please use the chat for

- Suggestions for what IndivisibleHoCoMD can do
- Questions for Indivisible

*Now put in the chat **one thing** that **you** are planning to do between now and December 31, 2021 to strengthen our democracy and push back authoritarianism*



ENDURANCE ACTIVISM





Endurance Activism



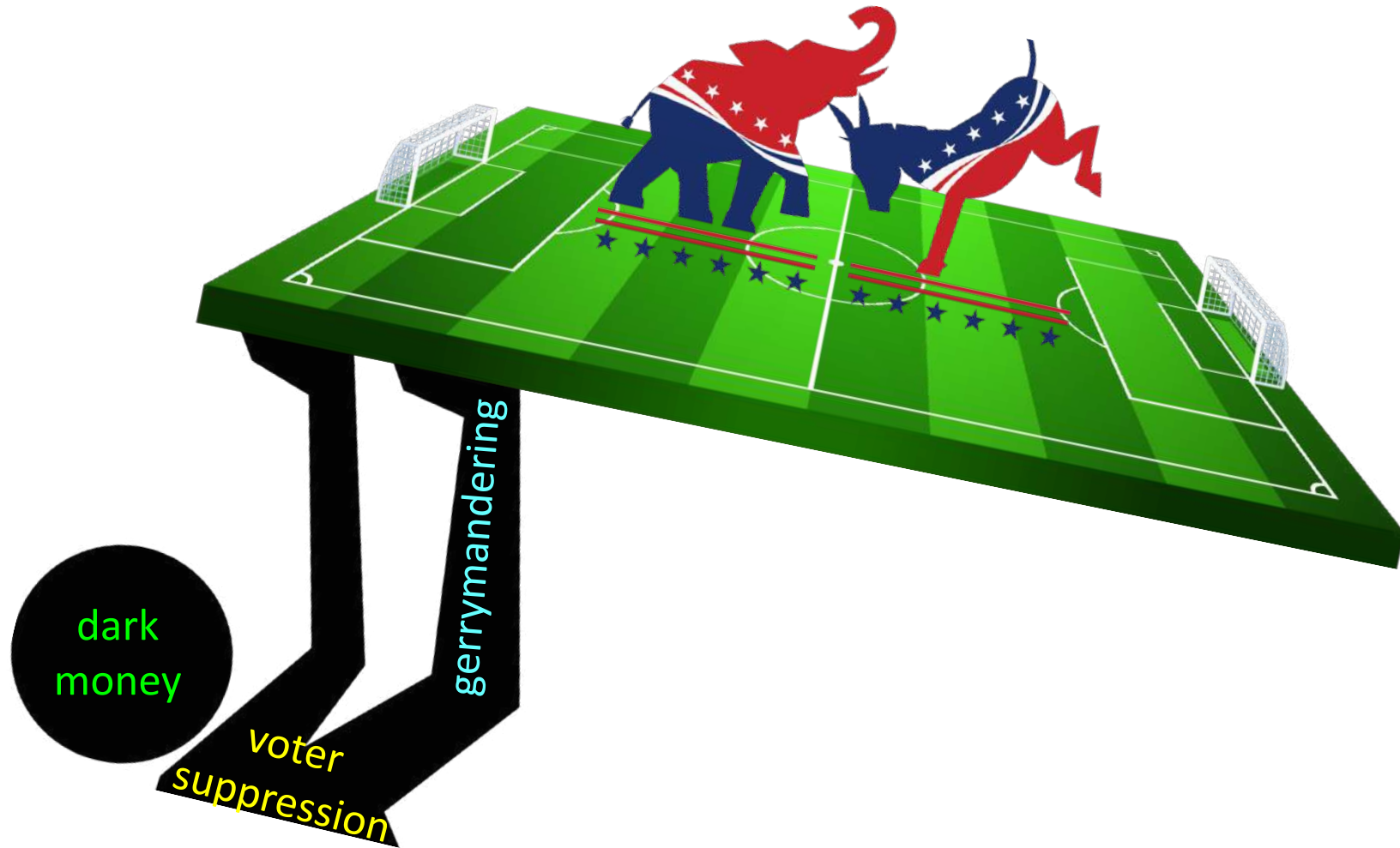
Broaden the focus beyond the next crisis to also include:

- ☐ working year-round on strategic elections
- ☐ advocating for the long-term health of democracy:
For the People Act, John Lewis Voting Rights Act
- ☐ ongoing civic education, voter registration & participation in the political process



Outlook 2021

An Uneven Playing Field





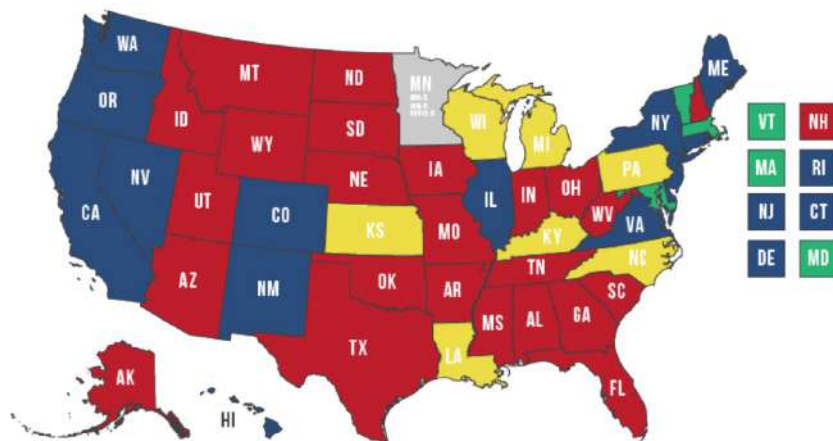
“It all comes back to the states.” –Gaby Goldstein, Sister District

- ☐ States control redistricting; redistricting determines who controls Congress.
- ☐ GOP-controlled state legislatures are passing laws that enable the state legislature, not the voters, to decide which Presidential candidate gets the electoral votes for that state.



Outlook 2021

REPUBLICAN & DEMOCRATIC CONTROL OF STATE LEGISLATURES IN 2021



	<i>Republican control of the executive and legislature-24 states</i>
	Republican control of legislature and Democratic control of the executive-7 states
	Republican control of the executive and Democratic control of the legislature-3 states
	Democratic control of the executive and legislature-16 states
	Split control of state legislature-1 state

STATES THAT HAVE ENACTED VOTER RESTRICTION LEGISLATION IN 2021:

- ✓ Montana
- ✓ Idaho
- ✓ Wyoming
- ✓ Nevada
- ✓ Utah
- ✓ Arizona
- ✓ Iowa
- ✓ Indiana
- ✓ Kansas
- ✓ Oklahoma
- ✓ Arkansas
- ✓ Texas
- ✓ Louisiana
- ✓ Kentucky
- ✓ New Hampshire
- ✓ Alabama
- ✓ Georgia
- ✓ Florida



Outlook 2021

- ❑ States legislate matters that directly influence our daily lives.
- ❑ State leaders become national leaders.
- ❑ Policies enacted by one state legislature often spread to other state legislatures. State laws become federal laws.



“Romneycare”

TX abortion law (citizen lawsuit provisions)



“Obamacare”

TN & FL anti-LGBTQ laws



Outlook 2021

Immediate Priority: Keep Virginia Blue!



Since 2019, VA's Democratic majority legislature has...

- ✓ Rolled back abortion restrictions
- ✓ Expanded voting rights
- ✓ Raised the minimum wage
- ✓ Expanded Medicaid for 400,000 Virginians
- ✓ Raised teacher pay
- ✓ Protected the environment
- ✓ Expanded background checks for gun purchases
- ✓ Protected the LGBTQ+ community
- ✓ And passed the ERA
- ✓ Abolished capital punishment



Outlook 2021

Why Virginia?

- ☐ The commonwealth is not a definitively blue state. From 1970-2018 the political pendulum swung back & forth.
- ☐ In 2019 Democrats flipped the VA House & Senate. Virginia's 2021 state elections will be the first test of public approval for the Biden administration and the state's governing Democratic trifecta!
- ☐ Geographic accessibility



“There is an intensity deficit here for the Democrats compared to where they were...” Dean Mark Rozell, George Mason University, Washington Post, September 19, 2021.



Outlook 2021

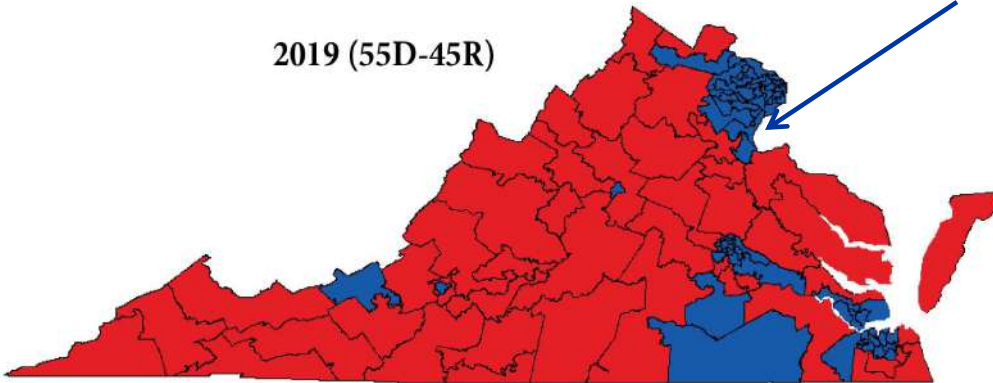


Early Voting has Started!

Re-Elect ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
JOSH COLE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 28



2019 (55D-45R)





Outlook 2021



- ☐ Join the virtual phone bank for Delegate Josh Cole on Wednesdays at 6:30pm ET!
- ☐ Knock on doors to help get out the vote for Democrats in Virginia on Saturdays and Sundays now until Nov 2!





Outlook 2022

2022 Midterm Elections



Outlook 2022



How much time are you planning to spend over the next 18 months to save democracy in America?

What type of engagement do you prefer?



In the Chat, please share ideas about what makes any of these activities easier or more appealing, and how we might be able to inspire more people to take action.



ACTION TEAM

PLANS for 2022

Action Team	2021-22 goals	Email to join
Climate Action	Promoting legislation in the Maryland General Assembly and other governing bodies to address climate crisis and environmental justice.	Barb: BarbaraMatheson@verizon.net Rich: rdeutschmann2@gmail.com
Defend Democracy	Mobilize public pressure on Congress and the President to pass urgently needed reforms to protect our democracy.	Christine: clemzye@hotmail.com Marijane: mjmonk@gmail.com
Economic Equity	Educate the public on land use and zoning issues, and testify on county bills that affect economic equity , and support existing efforts at the state level for legislative actions to improve equity.	Hiruy: hadguhiruy@gmail.com
Education	Get federal/state/local public education advocates on ballots and elected in 2022; focus on BoE candidates who value equity, fairness, and inclusion.	Laurie C: speechgirln@verizon.net
Immigration	Support legislation to protect immigrant rights at the local, state, and national level. Defeat the repeal of the Howard County Liberty Act on the 2022 ballot.	Laurie L: liskin49@gmail.com Roz: rozzinner@gmail.com
Red2Blue	2021 - Support Democratic election efforts in VA. 2022 - Support VR and Democratic election efforts in PA, and Maryland & Howard County races	Lynn: lfoehrkolb@yahoo.com Tara: taracarey@hotmail.com
Communications	Inform members of opportunities to actively participate in our democracy locally and at the state and federal level. Support the goals of the Action Teams in all available communications channels.	Judy: judithmrice@gmail.com Sue: suefranckel@gmail.com



Indivisible **HoCoMD**



Call to Action!



IndivisibleHoCoMD



Join Us!

- Email: IndivisibleHoCoMD@gmail.com
- Facebook group = IndivisibleHoCoMD
- Twitter = @IndivisibleHoCo (yeah – no MD. Things were a bit chaotic in 2017)
- Website = <https://www.indivisiblehocomd.org>