



PRESS RELEASE

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**The Dolores Huerta Foundation
JOINS A COALITION OF OVER 180 GROUPS TO ANNOUNCE ITS
PARTICIPATION IN THE MAY 8TH NATIONAL JOHN LEWIS VOTING
RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACTION DAY**

The Dolores Huerta Foundation, will host a VoterCade as part of the massive 100+ city mobilization effort to defeat voter suppression and promote democracy.

Bakersfield-Today, DHF announces its participation in the May 8th National John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Action Day during a live press conference scheduled for May 8th, 11am at the Elections Office at: 1115 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301. **DHF Founder and President, Dolores Huerta and Ucedrah Osby, Chapter President All of US or None** will be speaking about the critical need for civic engagement and the need to organize against voter suppression efforts. There will be a John Lewis Voting Rights VoterCade immediately following the press conference as part of the national day of activism following the press conference. This national day of activism, the Dolores Huerta Foundation along with All Of Us Or None, will come together to raise awareness and create energy around protecting the right to vote and limiting the influence of wealthy donors in our elections. Specifically, the event will urge Congress to immediately pass S1, the For the People Act, H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, H.R. 51, Washington, D.C. Admission Act, and to eliminate the filibuster.

Led by the Transformative Justice Coalition, an organization founded by voting rights champion Barbara Arnwine and led by its Board Chair Daryl Jones, the event will be organized by groups including Declaration For American Democracy (DFAD), Public Citizen, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, Indivisible and many others. This day of action will feature 100 "VoterCades" held simultaneously in 100 cities. The day will also feature educational opportunities such as a free two-hour National Broadcast, Voter Education Teach-Ins, and Celebration and Activism Villages.

Here in Bakersfield, CA we will be leading a VoterCade, which will start immediately following the 11am press conference at the Elections Office at 1115 Truxtun Ave. The voterCade will proceed down California Ave. and arrive at Mercado Latino at: 2105 Edison Hwy., Bakersfield, CA 93305. We will honor the legacy of the late Congressman John Lewis who dedicated his life to protecting and expanding voting rights for all Americans by making voter registration available at the event.

The event is in response to and in support of the passage of the For The People Act (HR1/S1), the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (HR4), the Washington, D.C. Admissions Act (HR51), and addressing the filibuster.

Following the record-breaking Black, Brown and Youth voter turnout in the Georgia runoff election, state legislatures across America, including in California have released an offensive onslaught of undemocratic legislation designed to specifically suppress the vote of communities of color and youth voters. Most notably, the Georgia State Legislature passed S.B. 202 -- a highly restrictive voter suppression bill that has been compared to Jim Crow laws. Georgia is one of forty-seven states that have introduced or passed over 360 anti-voter legislation. As Californians we want to unite against any effort to silence the voices of historically disenfranchised communities and to demand the rights of voter's to be protected. On May 8th, Americans will collectively rise up in major US cities, share in the National Broadcast and take to the streets in their cars to loudly demand that Congress protect ALL voters by passing uniform standards for federal elections and restore the full protections of the Voting Rights Act."

"When John Lewis crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965, he was putting himself at risk of violence to protect the right to vote. Throughout his life he showed us how getting into 'good trouble' could advance social justice. Today, we are called to honor his life and work by coming together to affirm that every voice be heard and demand that the vote be protected." said, **DHF Executive Director, Camila Chavez**. On May 8, we continue to honor his legacy by crossing every Edmund Pettus Bridge in America that separates American voters from their right to cast a meaningful ballot and demanding the passage of HR1/S1 and HR4.

About DHF

The Dolores Huerta Foundation is a 501 (c)3 organization whose mission is to inspire and organize communities to build volunteer organizations called Vecinos Unidos chapters empowered to pursue social justice. Vecinos Unidos members develop their community organizing, civic engagement, and leadership skills by working on policy advocacy on issues such as health, environment, education, and youth development in their communities. Learn more about the Dolores Huerta Foundation at www.doloreshuerta.org.

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