

**Leadership Now Project  
Count Every Hero  
Making Every Vote Count**

August 2, 2022

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
Senate Rules Committee, Chair  
425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Senate Rules Committee, Ranking Member  
260 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Klobuchar and Blunt:

We strongly support enactment of election integrity legislation that will be the subject of the Rules Committee's hearing on August 3. We commend the members of the Committee and the Bipartisan Senate Working Group for their in-depth assessments of the fundamental flaws in the antiquated Electoral Count Act of 1887 that became apparent in the aftermath of the most recent Presidential election. These analyses are reflected in the bills that have been developed to supplant the outdated 1887 provisions with a balanced framework and unambiguous terms.

Our three nonpartisan organizations are focused on the effective functioning of our democratic institutions in a 21<sup>st</sup> century America that must confront new governance challenges and create improved governance arrangements. Together we have deep experience in business activities dependent on a healthy and stable national economy and in military and national security matters.

In the past year, we have made it a priority to engage thoughtfully in reviewing the terms of possible remedial legislation to replace the 1887 Act. As a result, we are now able confidently to support a proposed Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act such as is being considered by the Rules Committee and to help evaluate possible improvements.

We recognize that a reformed Act would, first and foremost, provide a framework for resolving electoral disputes between presidential candidates in presidential elections. But a reformed Act would also help ensure the sound functioning of the Nation's domestic and international economic systems and protect our critical military and national security interests. Currently, these are threatened because the ill-conceived and confusing provisions of the 1887 Act can be manipulated by both domestic and foreign actors to empower our competitors, to discredit our political system and to open the door for catastrophic misunderstandings as to the employment of our military forces.

President Carter and former Secretary of State James Baker recently summarized in the Wall Street Journal the compelling case for bipartisan legislation that would clarify and bring up to date the provisions of the 1887 Act. Without such legislation, they concluded that the current Act could "wreak havoc" in future presidential elections, because the antiquated and muddled Act "allows uncertainty during a critical step in the peaceful transfer of [presidential] power."

Together we will work with the Rules Committee and the Bipartisan Senate Working Group to ensure that all of these interests--critical to the survival of our democracy-- are clearly served as definitive legislation moves to enactment by the Congress.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Leadership Now Project**



Daniella Ballou-Aares, CEO

**Count Every Hero**

Approved by all Co-Chairs:

Steve Abbot,  
Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret)

Thad Allen,  
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret)

Louis Caldera,  
Former U.S. Secretary of the Army

George Casey,  
General, U.S. Army (Ret)

Debbie Lee James,  
Former U.S. Secretary of the Air Force

John Jumper,  
General, U.S. Air Force (Ret)

Craig McKinley,  
General, U.S. Air Force (Ret)

Sean O'Keefe,  
Former U.S. Secretary of the Navy

Tony Zinni,  
General, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret)

**Making Every Vote Count**

Elizabeth Cavanagh, Chair/CEO

cc: Bipartisan Senate Working Group  
c/o Senator Susan Collins; Senator Joe Manchin

Enclosure: Summary Description of Organizations

**Enclosure To Letter  
To  
Senators Klobuchar and Blunt**

**August 2, 2022**

**LEADERSHIP NOW PROJECT:** Leadership Now is a membership organization of business and thought leaders who are committed to high-impact solutions to renew American democracy. Leadership Now has four guiding principles that transcend political parties: to protect democracy while renewing it; to promote fact and evidence-based policymaking; to create an economy that works for all, and to embrace diversity as an asset. In 2021-2022, the organization is focused on

- Protecting elections in priority states in 2022 and 2024
- Informing & activating business leaders for democracy
- Supporting candidates and constituencies that re-inspire the exhausted majority.

See: [leadershipnowproject.org](https://leadershipnowproject.org)

**COUNT EVERY HERO:** We are a cross-partisan initiative originally formed by veterans of US military services as a response to misinformation campaigns during the 2020 Presidential and Congressional elections that threatened service members' freedom to vote and have their votes counted. The events of January 6th and the subsequent push to pass anti-voter legislation across the country, however, underscored that misinformation continues to threaten military, veteran, and civilian access to the franchise. We are motivated by the Constitution, which created a republic where political power is vested in the American people. As veterans, our oath and devotion to the Constitution drives us to ensure that no policy or politician weakens that power.

See: [counteveryhero.org](https://counteveryhero.org)

**MAKING EVERY VOTE COUNT:** MEVC is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization with a simple mission: to ensure a truly democratic system for electing our country's President and Vice President. Today, not all votes count equally and the entire election process—choosing candidates, campaigning in the general election, and vote counting after the election—focuses on the electoral votes of four to ten swing states. Also, serious defects in our current system from Election Day to Inauguration Day, including in the Electoral Count Act of 1887, enable unacceptable threats to the integrity of our democratic processes. MEVC promotes reforms that help to ensure that (1) the candidate who receives the most votes nationwide will become President, and (2) the votes of all citizens matter equally and are counted fairly.

See: [mevcaction.com](https://mevcaction.com)