

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4292

To establish within the legislative branch a Congressional Task Force on Voting Rights of United States Citizen Residents of Territories of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 2, 2025

Ms. PLASKETT (for herself and Mr. MOYLAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish within the legislative branch a Congressional Task Force on Voting Rights of United States Citizen Residents of Territories of the United States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL TASK FORCE ON VOTING**
4 **RIGHTS OF UNITED STATES CITIZEN RESI-**
5 **DENTS OF TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED**
6 **STATES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS RELATING TO TERRITORIAL VOTING
8 RIGHTS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The right to vote is one of the most power-
2 ful instruments residents of the territories of the
3 United States have to ensure that their voices are
4 heard.

5 (2) These Americans have played an important
6 part in the American democracy for more than 120
7 years.

8 (3) Political participation and the right to vote
9 are among the highest concerns of territorial resi-
10 dents in part because they were not always afforded
11 these rights.

12 (4) Voter participation in the territories consist-
13 ently ranks higher than many communities on the
14 mainland.

15 (5) Territorial residents serve and die, on a per
16 capita basis, at a higher rate in every United States
17 war and conflict since WWI, as an expression of
18 their commitment to American democratic principles
19 and patriotism.

20 (b) TASK FORCE.—

21 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established
22 within the legislative branch a Congressional Task
23 Force on Voting Rights of United States Citizen
24 Residents of Territories of the United States (in this
25 section referred to as the “Task Force”).

1 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall be
2 composed of 15 members as follows:

3 (A) One Member of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the
5 Speaker of the House of Representatives, in co-
6 ordination with the Chairman of the Committee
7 on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
8 resentatives.

9 (B) One Member of the House of Rep-
10 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the
11 Speaker of the House of Representatives, in co-
12 ordination with the Chairman of the Committee
13 on the Judiciary of the House of Representa-
14 tives.

15 (C) Two Members of the House of Rep-
16 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the
17 Speaker of the House of Representatives, in co-
18 ordination with the Chairman of the Committee
19 on House Administration of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives.

21 (D) One Member of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the
23 Speaker of the House.

24 (E) One Member of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the mi-

1 nority leader of the House of Representatives,
2 in coordination with the ranking minority mem-
3 ber of the Committee on Natural Resources of
4 the House of Representatives.

5 (F) One Member of the House of Rep-
6 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the mi-
7 nority leader of the House of Representatives,
8 in coordination with the ranking minority mem-
9 ber of the Committee on the Judiciary of the
10 House of Representatives.

11 (G) One Member of the House of Rep-
12 resentatives, who shall be appointed by the mi-
13 nority leader of the House of Representatives,
14 in coordination with the ranking minority mem-
15 ber of the Committee on House Administration
16 of the House of Representatives.

17 (H) One Member of the Senate, who shall
18 be appointed by the majority leader of the Sen-
19 ate, in coordination with the Chairman of the
20 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
21 the Senate.

22 (I) One Member of the Senate, who shall
23 be appointed by the majority leader of the Sen-
24 ate, in coordination with the Chairman of the
25 Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

1 (J) One Member of the Senate, who shall
2 be appointed by the majority leader of the Sen-
3 ate, in coordination with the Chairman of the
4 Committee on Rules and Administration of the
5 Senate.

6 (K) One Member of the Senate, who shall
7 be appointed by the Majority Leader of the
8 Senate.

9 (L) One Member of the Senate, who shall
10 be appointed by the minority leader of the Sen-
11 ate, in coordination with the ranking minority
12 member of the Committee on Energy and Nat-
13 ural Resources of the Senate.

14 (M) One Member of the Senate, who shall
15 be appointed by the minority leader of the Sen-
16 ate, in coordination with the ranking minority
17 member of the Committee on the Judiciary of
18 the Senate.

19 (N) One Member of the Senate, who shall
20 be appointed by the minority leader of the Sen-
21 ate, in coordination with the ranking minority
22 member of the Committee on Rules and Admin-
23 istration of the Senate.

24 (3) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All ap-
25 pointments to the Task Force shall be made not

1 later than 30 days after the date of enactment of
2 this Act.

3 (4) CHAIR.—The Speaker shall designate one
4 Member to serve as chair of the Task Force.

5 (5) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Task
6 Force shall be filled in the same manner as the
7 original appointment.

8 (6) STATUS UPDATE.—Not later than 180 days
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Task
10 Force shall provide a status update to the House of
11 Representatives and the Senate that includes—

12 (A) information the Task Force has col-
13 lected; and

14 (B) a discussion on matters that the chair-
15 man of the Task Force deems urgent for con-
16 sideration by Congress.

17 (7) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the
18 date of the enactment of this Act, the Task Force
19 shall issue a report of its findings to the House of
20 Representatives and the Senate regarding—

21 (A) the economic and societal consequences
22 (through statistical data and other metrics)
23 that come with political disenfranchisement of
24 United States citizens in territories of the
25 United States;

1 (B) impediments to full and equal voting
2 rights for United States citizens who are resi-
3 dents of territories of the United States in Fed-
4 eral elections, including the election of the
5 President and Vice President of the United
6 States;

7 (C) impediments to full and equal voting
8 representation in the House of Representatives
9 for United States citizens who are residents of
10 territories of the United States;

11 (D) recommended changes that, if adopted,
12 would allow for full and equal voting rights for
13 United States citizens who are residents of ter-
14 ritories of the United States in Federal elec-
15 tions, including the election of the President
16 and Vice President of the United States;

17 (E) recommended changes that, if adopted,
18 would allow for full and equal voting represen-
19 tation in the House of Representatives for
20 United States citizens who are residents of ter-
21 ritories of the United States; and

22 (F) additional information the Task Force
23 deems appropriate.

24 (8) CONSENSUS VIEWS.—To the greatest extent
25 practicable, the report issued under paragraph (7)

1 shall reflect the shared views of all 15 Members, ex-
2 cept that the report may contain dissenting views.

3 (9) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Task
4 Force may, for the purpose of carrying out this sec-
5 tion, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places,
6 take testimony, and receive evidence as the Task
7 Force considers appropriate.

8 (10) STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION.—In car-
9 rying out its duties, the Task Force shall consult
10 with the governments of American Samoa, Guam,
11 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
12 lands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the
13 United States Virgin Islands.

14 (11) RESOURCES.—The Task Force shall carry
15 out its duties by utilizing existing facilities, services,
16 and staff of the House of Representatives and the
17 Senate.

18 (12) TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall ter-
19minate upon issuing the report required under para-
20graph (7).

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