

Memorandum

Date: January 31, 2023
Subj: National Conference for Election Reform
From: Tim Meisburger
The America Project
tim@americaproject.com

The undeniable integrity problems associated with the 2020 elections led to a massive explosion in grassroots organizations across the country dedicated to finding solutions to these problems. Their impact in Virginia in 2021, and their potential impact on the 2022 national elections, is substantial, but due to duplication and overlap and more enthusiasm than knowledge or capacity, that impact was and will be much less than it could have been had the organizations been working in coordination with each other, and sharing best practices.

The first day of Mike Lindell's Moment of Truth Summit in Missouri last August demonstrated that there are organizations in every state in the US dedicated to a few core election reforms, which can be summarized as:

- End machine voting
- End postal voting for all except bona fide absentee ballots
- Allow effective election observation of all election processes
- Clean voter rolls
- Require voter ID and proof of citizenship to vote
- Vote on one day and make that day a national holiday

Prominent "America First" individuals, and sympathetic donors (possibly Mike Lindell) could bring together election integrity organizations from across the country in February 2023 for a three-day workshop to:

- conduct an after-action review of the 2022 elections and associated election integrity efforts, and articulate lessons-learned;
- develop a national reform agenda and a national strategy for reform advocacy;
- share the experience and expertise developed by individual organizations, and;
- form working groups to address particular issues.

Some DC-based organizations have tried to form election integrity coalitions, but in general these efforts have been uncoordinated, top-down, and imposed their own priorities, which in many cases are not aligned with the priorities of the America First grassroots. These inappropriate and counterproductive priorities include the preservation of machine-based and mail-in voting, and the adoption of ballot-harvesting as an electoral strategy.

The decision of these traditional Republican organizations to emulate and collaborate with the Democrats is somehow not surprising, and leaves a leadership gap for non-partisan election reforms that aim to provide a transparent, credible and secure election process for all Americans. This project would help fill that gap by facilitating the development of a national grassroots coalition for election reform.

The coalition would be composed of like-minded equal partners, deciding issues democratically, and sharing information and working together because they share common goals and a general commitment to free and fair elections. The core of the network would likely be composed of organizations espousing America First principles and policies, but would be open to any organization committed to fair elections for all American citizens.

Primary tasks for organizers would be identifying the venue and date; identifying invitees; facilitating online meetings for agenda development and to identify facilitators for sessions and working groups; then leading synthesis and drafting of conclusions and reports.

The activity would be based on approaches developed overseas that created functional and durable coalitions for advocacy, election monitoring and voter education. Outcomes would be a national strategy for election reform, a nascent national coalition for election integrity, and a substantial increase in media exposure and advocacy power for commonsense electoral reforms.

END