

Announcer:

Welcome to News in Focus with your host Chris Long, President of the Ohio Christian Alliance. Stay tuned for the analysis and conversation about the issues that matter most to you and your family here. Here now with this week's edition of News in Focus is Chris Long.

Host Chris Long:

And good afternoon to this edition of News in Focus. We're glad that you've joined us. We're going to be talking about election laws and election reform, and we're going to be talking about what's happening in the State of Georgia. And also, we're going to have breaking news of what's happening here in Ohio to basically safeguard our election system going forward.

Host Chris Long:

Many Ohioans felt disenfranchised this last election, as they could only sit helplessly and watch other states ramble and grapple with some of their elections processes in Georgia, in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Arizona, Nevada, and other states, when Ohio, we basically, it was decided on election night, yet we saw the changing of laws in Pennsylvania that were unconstitutional before the election.

Host Chris Long:

We saw a lot of suspicion that came out of Georgia, and that's why their legislature has moved to make it a requirement of photo ID requirement in the State of Georgia. We'll talk about that and some of the blow back that's happening. But first, I want to go to Capitol Hill. Here's an interview in a statement by Senator Ted Cruz of Texas on H.R.1. This is the wishlist of the democratic party of what they want to do with elections. It's really alarming. Let's listen to Senator Cruz.

Senator Ted Cruz:

I just came from the Rules Committee hearing on the Corrupt Politicians Act. This is the most dangerous legislation that's ever been considered by the Rules Committee. It is in the House H.R.1. It is in the Senate S.1. That means it's the very first bill that was submitted by Nancy Pelosi and the Democrats. The very first bill that was submitted by Chuck Schumer and the Democrats. It is their number one priority. Pause for a minute and reflect that the top priority of the Democrats is not COVID-19. It's not immunizations. It's not getting people back to work.

Senator Ted Cruz:

It's not reopening schools and getting millions of kids back in the classroom. It is locking in power for the Democrats for the next 100 years. That is their overarching priority. How does it do this? The Corrupt Politicians Act mandates automatic voter registration whenever anyone has an interaction with the government, whether they have an interaction getting a welfare check an unemployment check, whether they have a driver's license from the DMV, whether they attend a public university. Everyone is registered. This bill is intended to and will register to vote millions of illegal aliens.

Senator Ted Cruz:

That is exactly what the Democrats want to do with this bill is register millions of illegal aliens and the text of the bill acknowledges that, and it says the illegal aliens who are registered to vote, even though it's against the law for them to vote, they face no liability because they're automatically registered to vote. Not only that, this bill prevents the states from addressing that from correcting the voter rolls,

prevents the states from removing dead people from the voter rolls to facilitate voter fraud. Not only that, this bill mandates that criminals be allowed to vote, that all felons.

Senator Ted Cruz:

Many states have very reasonable laws that prohibit felons from voting. The Democrats repeal every one of those laws. They mandate that murderers, that rapists, that child molesters be allowed to vote. The reason the Democrats do that is they've made the determination that if millions of illegal aliens and millions of criminals are allowed to vote, that those voters are going to vote for Democrats. And they're going to keep Democrats in power forever.

Host Chris Long:

That is Senator Ted Cruz and, again, that's H.R.1. That's the elections bill that's currently in the U.S. Senate. You need to call your Senator and actually called Senator Joe Manchin down there in West Virginia, because he's a swing vote. He's keeping the filibuster intact, and we want to make sure that he receives calls as well. We'll put that information up on our website, because we're in a real battle here for our Republic, folks, and about having fair and equal elections. With me on the phone is Cleta Mitchell.

Host Chris Long:

She's an attorney who's actually working on elections this go around. In fact, she's rounding a grassroots campaign right now and speaking across the country working to combat Democrats reforms and everything from voting laws to redistricting and campaign finance laws. This is what's needed right now is that we need to mount an opposition to what they're trying to do, and actually safeguard the vote in the states of question.

Host Chris Long:

And again, they were spelled out, where we had a long debates of what happened in Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Nevada, Arizona, and we've got to fix this if we're going to have fair and just elections going forward in this representative republic. Cleta, welcome to the program.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Well, thank you so much for having me, Chris.

Host Chris Long:

Well, thank you for what you're doing. I'm so glad that you're really free and unencumbered. I know that you left your law firm at the beginning of the year, and you felt that it was time to launch out and to do some work like you're doing right now. We're so glad that you are, and many are applauding you for it. It's really going to take all of us to get behind this, isn't it?

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Well, it really is. You mentioned it at the beginning and it's really important for anyone who hears this to please pick up the phone, call the U.S. Senate and speak to your U.S. Senator. You got to tell them that they need to vote no, vote no on S.1. Because some of the things that it does, it's an 800 page bill and it incorporates about 47 different pieces of federal legislation into this one massive piece of legislation. It

prohibits voter identification. It's a laundry list that Senator Cruz made reference to, but it goes on and on and on.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

And if he said it consolidates power to the Democrats, one of the things it does is it prohibits state legislatures from drawing district lines from members of Congress. Well, why do they want to do that? Because there are more Republican legislatures than there are Democrat legislature. So they want to take it out of the hand of the elected officials and put it in the hands of what they call "independent" commission to handle redistricting.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Studies that have been done of those redistricting commissions have demonstrated that they're dominated by, what, professors, academics, and liberals that they can control. It's a pretty scary thing. The way I finally... If you look at the things that they're passing in Congress, the Equality Act, all these horrible things they're doing, they're wildly unpopular with most Americans. They want to pass this bill so that they can win reelection anyway and actually put the elections beyond the reach of the voters in America. That's what they're doing.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Our country was founded on a principle of the consent of the governed, and this would completely up in that principle. It wouldn't matter whether the governed, that being us, the voters, the people, it wouldn't matter if we consent or not, they can cram it down our throats forever. And that's exactly what this is about.

Host Chris Long:

A representative republic, not as simple democracy. It's so important that a small states have two senators and large states with much population have two senators. That equality of representation before Congress is what the Founding Fathers gave us, and then representatives in Congress according to the electoral count in each state. There are those who want to abolish the electoral college, which is a representation of rural districts and farm districts and smaller states against the big West Coast or East Coast states. This is how everyone has a voice in a representative republic.

Host Chris Long:

The Democrats, if they get their way, would do away with that. Like you said, they would just run rough shot over the will of the people. And that's why the filibuster is so important to keep that intact and that's hanging by a thread right now with basically two senators hanging on, Sinema from Arizona and Joe Manchin from West Virginia. But let's talk for a minute. I mean, we're talking about real-time invasion on our Southern border. I mean, the news is happening so fast and furious. You're a good friend of mine who passed on Phyllis Schlafly.

Host Chris Long:

She said this was the number one concern of America was securing our borders. President Trump took that up when he ran in 2016. It resonated with the people. He began to build the wall. He began to put an effective immigration policy in place. That has all been dispensed with in the opening act of the Biden administration. Last month alone, over 136,000 illegal immigrants passed the border into the United

States last month alone in the month of March. And they want to get these people in. They want to get them voter registration and processed, and they came in illegally.

Host Chris Long:

They didn't come in the way that immigrants are to come through the gates of welcome. They came in in the depth of night. Your thoughts?

Guest Attorney Clea Mitchell:

Well, that's a lot to unpack, but let me just say that I talked with some people in Arizona last Thursday who are involved in voter registration efforts in Arizona, and they're busily trying to register legal citizens, because one of the things that we know is that nearly half of regular church going Americans do not. They're not registered and they don't vote. We're trying to make believers understand that they need to be registered. They need to vote.

Guest Attorney Clea Mitchell:

But these Democrats and these left-wing groups in Arizona are meeting buses of illegals and they're registering illegals as they get off the bus in Arizona. And of course, that is a violation of federal law. It's a violation of federal law for someone who's not a citizen to register, and it's a violation of federal law for... A separate violation, it's a felony, for a non-citizen to vote. This bill, H.R.1 that's now S.1 in the Senate, it would say that no one could be prosecuted for voting illegally, and you couldn't even turn in illegals who are registered and voting.

Guest Attorney Clea Mitchell:

That it would make it impossible to clean the voter rolls and to block the illegals from voting. I mean, there's also a provision to make the District of Columbia a state. They want to make Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia a state, so that that could add four more U.S. Senators that they believe will be always Democrat. So look, they're willing to attack the Supreme Court, rewrite the election laws in the most radical upheaval in election administration in our nation's history. They want to add states. They will stop at nothing, at nothing to secure their power.

Guest Attorney Clea Mitchell:

People need to be aware and actively voicing their opposition to this horrendous change in our nation, which is what they're trying to do.

Host Chris Long:

Well, that's exactly right. We're talking with Clea Mitchell. She's an attorney that's working on election laws and process across the country, helping legislators that are moving forward to actually safeguard their elections in Georgia. They moved forward with reasonable voter ID laws, and yet it received a firestorm from the left, and you can only guess why. It basically shuts down fraud, folks. And I mean, this is actually enacted in other parts of the country and we're seeing such hypocrisy here.

Host Chris Long:

We saw the boycotts called by the left when Georgia legislature passed the law on voter ID and some other reforms in their election laws. Delta Airlines that's headquartered there, the Major League Baseball pulled out the midsummer classic, the All-Star Game, Coca-Cola also spoke against it, and now

Republicans are finally figuring it out. It's like, well, if you corporations are going to pick sides in this political debate, then we're going to counter boycott. I got to tell you, Cleta, I've talked to a lot of our folks, they're not going to baseball games this year.

Host Chris Long:

They've already started there. I've got guys who have taken their season tickets from the Indians and they're saying, "Hey, that's it. If you're going to do this, my country is more important to me than a ball game." We can make choices here, and there's going to be really a war, a tug of war in all this, but really thank the Lord for what the legislature in Georgia did. They finally got something got going and move forward, and they're not going to cower because we either do that or we surrender. We just can't do that. What's your thoughts in what is happening in Georgia?

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Well, I spent and I still spend some of every day down in Georgia. I spent two months there working as part of the president's legal team to bring in an election challenge to the results of the November election. And I can just tell you that there is one simple fact, there are more illegal votes included in the certified number than there is the margin of victory between President Trump and Joe Biden. There's no doubt in my mind that there should have been... We never got a judge appointed to hear our election contest for a month, a month, in what was supposed to be an expedited proceeding.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

A judge wasn't appointed until two days before the electoral college were being certified by the Congress. And by then, there was no way that we could actually have a trial and really move forward. They threatened to sue for millions of dollars in sanctions. It was really a miscarriage of justice. And we're still trying to deal with the fallout. But I promise you, what the legislature passed in Georgia was not even the most strenuous thing it could attack. Georgia has had photo ID requirements for a number of years if you vote in person.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

That was litigated and the court upheld the Georgia voter ID law. All the legislature did was extend that photo ID requirement to include people who vote by mail. That you have to include with your ballot application a copy of your driver's license, or even allowed you to include a copy of a bank statement with your name and address, or a copy of a utility bill with your name and address. So the fact of the matter is, this is not exactly draconian. In Colorado, where they've moved the All-Star Game, they've moved the All-Star Game to Colorado, Colorado has photo ID requirements.

Host Chris Long:

Yes, that's right. What hypocrisy! Yeah. That's right.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

I just want to keep saying, read the bill, boys. Read the bill. None of them have read it. If they had read it, they would know that it's not draconian. 70% of Americans support photo ID, including 70% of African-Americans.

Host Chris Long:

That's right.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Across the board people support photo ID for voting.

Host Chris Long:

They do.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Someone pointed out that if you want to go pick up tickets for Major League Baseball games at the will-call window, what do you have to show? A photo ID. If you want to get on Delta Airlines, what do you have to show? A photo ID. So explain to me why you can't show a photo ID for voting by mail, so that at least the election officials will know when an absentee ballot application comes in, it's for a real person who's registered, and they can confirm that.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

We had so many instances in Georgia after the election when we were pulling together that election contest, we had so many people who said when they got to their polling place, they were told, "Oh, Mrs. Smith, we show that you've already voted." We had that happen over and over. And you know why? If you don't have photo ID, anybody can vote in anybody else's name, even yours, and there's nothing you can do about it.

Host Chris Long:

Well, that's exactly right and that happened in Pennsylvania. I have a friend... Excuse me, my son, who's an Iraq war veteran, and he keeps in contact with his army buddies. He talked to those in Pennsylvania and they said, "We all went into the polls and we're told we already voted. And that we would have to vote provisionally because somebody had already cast a vote in our name." This happened in Pennsylvania widespread. We're trying to get the numbers on all this. The president was at, President Trump that is, was at a disadvantage with his legal teams not being able to cover.

Host Chris Long:

Back in 2000, it was one state in question basically and one county, Dade County, in Florida. That's where the battle was. This time it was spread out across the country, and there was widespread voter fraud in my opinion. I think there's a lot of documentation to back that up. And a lot of people have seen and heard the eyewitness reports, the video tapes, all the evidence that's been presented, but most of the courts would not take these cases and would not hear the evidence. Cleta, where are we at with all that?

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Well, I think where we are with all of those things is that I know of various projects where people are attempting to document what happened in specific states. There's still litigation ongoing in some states, but mostly we're just trying to document looking at the machinery. There's auditing the equipment, getting to the bottom of who owns the equipment, and who have the opportunity to either hack or manipulate the tabulating machine component of the equipment.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

I think there is a lot of interest and concern about documenting what happened in 2020, and I think that's so important because we can't let the false narrative of the left, and I include the broad sweep of the left, the media, the Democrats, all the left-wing groups, Hollywood, academia that say, "Oh, there was nothing wrong with the 2020 election." Well, I am here to tell you yes, there was plenty wrong with the 2020 election. I was in Georgia. I'll just give you this one fact. This is a fact. The margin of victory between President Trump and Joe Biden was 11,779 votes.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

That's a certified number. Now, mind you, that's the third certified number and it changed every time. But in just one category, we identified over 30 category of illegal votes that we could identify from government records, publicly available records, and experts going through the records and signing under penalty of perjury an expert report regarding irregularities and illegality. Just in one area of law, Georgia law requires that you have to be registered at a residential address. You cannot vote if you are registered at an address other than your permanent residence.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

And we have 18,325 votes that are cast by individuals whose registration is a P.O. box at a vacant lot or at a commercial address. And that is the fact. And that's enough right there to have required a new election, which is the remedy under Georgia law, but we never could get it in front of a court. We had many, many more examples like that. We want to get to the bottom of it, document it, because history is entitled to know what really happened.

Host Chris Long:

We're talking with Cleta Mitchell. She's an attorney. She's working on election reform across the country. Cleta, you'll be working in other states as time goes on and also with the redistricting once the census numbers come out. You'll be working with state legislatures or be at access to be able to help them if they have questions, is that correct?

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

That's correct.

Host Chris Long:

Well, how can they contact you? How can folks contact you or at least follow you in the work that you're doing?

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Well, I'm not very good about social media. I got so angry about what they did to support Twitter versus the president, Facebook, and all of it. So I haven't been so good about that, but I am on Twitter occasionally @cletamitchell. And then I'm also involved with the Conservative Partnership Institute, which is an organization founded by Jim DeMint and Mark Meadows has now joined the Conservative Partnership Institute. And I'm also working with FreedomWorks on citizen engagement and election integrity. And there's going to be a website at FreedomWorks.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

It's going to be going live next week. Check [freedomworks.org](https://freedomworks.org) in the next week, because we're signing people up who want to become engaged in the whole process of protecting the integrity of our elections.

Host Chris Long:

I wanted to share with you that we are moving forward. Here in Ohio we have a legislature that is going to move forward on a provision that after six months in a local election... So for instance, in a county where a county prosecutor will not pursue voter fraud charges, the new language would defer after three or six months to the attorney general to pursue those voter fraud charges. Some of what we've been landlocked as if there's a partisan prosecutor in an urban district where voter fraud has been known, it just sits there because it's up to the home rule of the prosecutor pursuing it.

Host Chris Long:

Now this new legislation will allow for the state attorney general to pursue those charges. That's going to be new here in Ohio.

Guest Attorney Cleta Mitchell:

Well, that's great. I mean, one of the biggest problems that I found that I saw in 2020 is in addition to some of the substantive election issues, such as the one I mentioned that you have to provide in Georgia a photo ID to vote in person, but not if you vote by mail, but also it was so frustrating not to be able to get a judge appointed to be able to hear our case. The actual enforcement of the law is really important. I'm glad that Ohio is addressing that.

Host Chris Long:

Absolutely. Cleta, thank you so much for being my guest today. We will have you back because there's lots of work to do. God bless you. Thank you. Again, Cleta Mitchell and she'll be working with FreedomWorks, and we're going to go to their website as they're going to launch a whole new website on this election form. We'll be right back after these messages. Don't go away.