Dear Chairman Miller and Chairman Goodlatte:

We the undersigned ask you to convene hearings on a suite of legislative reforms within the jurisdiction of the Committee on House Administration and the House Judiciary Committee respectively. At a time when Americans of all political stripes have grown deeply cynical, convinced that the institutions of government – particularly Congress – are broken beyond repair, reforms that can restore confidence in the functioning of our republic must be an immediate and urgent priority.

The two basic imperatives of a functioning democracy—the right to vote and the right to have your vote mean something—are under assault. Spurred on by the Supreme Court’s decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, partisan operatives in state legislatures are crafting new ways to limit Americans access to the ballot box. At the same time, the corrosive effect of big money on our political system—an effect exacerbated by the *Citizens United* decision—has left many Americans wondering whether their ballots can ever compete against the power of a privileged few.

It is time for federal action to address these twin challenges to our democracy. As members of Congress, our most important responsibility is to ensure that the voice of every American can be heard. To that end, we ask that you schedule hearings on the following bills as soon as possible:

- The Voter Empowerment Act (H.R. 12)
- The Government By the People Act (H.R. 20)
- The Democracy for All Amendment (H.J.Res. 22)
- The Automatic Voter Registration (H.R. 2694)
- The Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2867)

The House of Representatives is known as the “People’s House.” In that spirit, we believe it is high time to take up the “People’s Reforms.” Let’s give these key measures a fair hearing in committee and then bring them to the House floor for debate and a vote.

Sincerely,

John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

David Cicilline
Member of Congress
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

Matthew Cartwright  
Member of Congress

Beto O'Rourke  
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress

Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress

Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress

Donna Edwards  
Member of Congress

James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress

Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

Jose E. Serrano
Member of Congress

John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress

Jared Polis
Member of Congress

John Carney
Member of Congress

Don Beyer
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

Denny Heck
Member of Congress
Nita Lowey  
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver  
Member of Congress

Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress

George K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy III  
Member of Congress

Timothy J. Walz  
Member of Congress

Terri Sewell  
Member of Congress
Susan Davis
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

Scott Peters
Member of Congress

Kathleen Rice
Member of Congress