

PRESS ADVISORY: MEDIA BACKGROUND BRIEFING

**WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE LOOKS AT ELECTION BILLS:  
WHAT'S AT STAKE IN THE MAY FLOOR PERIOD**

**Hear from, and ask questions of, Law Forward legal experts and voting rights leaders from Disability Rights Wisconsin and League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, in a conversation moderated by Reverend Gregory Lewis of Souls to the Polls**

- What:** Background briefing for media in advance of the potential floor votes and committee hearings on election law changes during the May floor period.
- When:** Thursday, May 6, 9:30 AM Central.
- Why:** Nearly 20 bills have been introduced to alter voting and elections in Wisconsin, on the heels of a high turnout election heralded as a success despite unique challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic. What nearly all these bills have in common is that they would undermine functional election administration and democracy in Wisconsin. These bills are part of a larger national trend, with state legislatures increasingly moving to micromanage and politicize election administration. A number of these bills would make it harder for many Wisconsinites to participate in our democracy via elections.
- Who:** Law Forward President [JEFF MANDELL](#) played a central role in litigation around Wisconsin's 2020 election, from disputes about who would be on the ballot to those over who would be able to vote, and from representing Governor Evers in the panoply of post-election challenges to seeking accountability for those who tried to hijack Wisconsin's Electoral College votes.
- Law Forward Staff Attorney [MEL BARNES](#), who has prepared an analysis (which will be shared with registered press in advance of the briefing, and released publicly after) cataloging the impact of these legislative proposals and the practical changes they would require in Wisconsin elections. Mel recently joined Law Forward as its first Staff Attorney, coming from Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, where she was the Director of Legal Advocacy & Policy.
- Disability Rights Wisconsin's Milwaukee Office Director [BARBARA BECKERT](#), who will discuss the significant impact these bills would have on many voters with disabilities and older adults.
- The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Executive Director [DEBRA CRONMILLER](#), who will speak to the concerns these bills raise for voters across the state.
- Moderated by Reverend Gregory Lewis, President of the Milwaukee Souls to the Polls Alliance.*
- How:** [Register here](#) for the Zoom webinar. Email [mbarnes@lawforward.org](mailto:mbarnes@lawforward.org) for assistance.