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# Project 2025: What's At Stake for Voting Rights

**What is Project 2025?** It's a wish list of right-wing policies, reflecting an extreme Christian nationalist ideology, written by the Heritage Foundation and more than 100 other conservative groups as a blueprint for a potential conservative administration. It is an explicit effort to further empower the presidency, embed ideologues in nonpartisan civil service, and enable the executive branch to unravel the civil rights movement's gains over the last seven decades.

The full agenda, which is more than 900 pages long, would completely reshape our federal government in order to benefit white nationalists, the rich and powerful, and religiously motivated bigots. Here is how it would undermine voting rights and democracy more broadly:

- **Criminalizing the Voting Process:** Project 2025 would shift responsibility for prosecuting election-related offenses from the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division to the Criminal Division — saying that “Otherwise, voter registration fraud and unlawful ballot correction will remain federal election offenses that are never appropriately investigated and prosecuted.” This will open the door to sham investigations and aggressive prosecutions of voters and election officials. It will serve to intimidate state and local election workers already under threat and could criminalize election administration disputes.
- **Allowing the Proliferation of Online Misinformation and Disinformation Relating to Elections:** Project 2025 would end ongoing federal efforts by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to combat online disinformation and threats to secure elections, and it would scale back federal technical assistance to state and local governments close to Election Day.
- **Allowing Government Access to State Voter Rolls:** Project 2025 would require state and local recipients of DHS grant funding to meet certain pre-conditions for eligibility, such as a commitment to total information-sharing that would allow access to department of motor vehicles and voter registration databases. This would interfere with state maintenance of voter lists in order to cast doubt on the legitimacy of election results and allow the administration to collect voter rolls in order to deploy aggressive voter purges that disenfranchise voters.

- **Restricting the Biden Administration’s “Promoting Access to Voting” Executive Order:**  
Project 2025 characterizes the ability of federal agencies to become designated voter registration agencies, pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 and — more recently — President Biden’s executive order, as “mission-creep.” This executive order adopted a “whole of government” approach to promoting voter registration and was strongly supported by civil rights groups. It could add an estimated 3.5 million registered voters per year.