Dear Colleague,

In a democracy, one of the most important ways a citizen can assert their interests is by voting. Tragically, in the United States, we are seeing efforts to undermine this right and weaken public institutions. CUGH is committed to protecting voters' rights and increasing voter turnout in the upcoming November election, one of the most important elections in our lifetime. To do this we are releasing our new campaign: Global Health Votes. This involves:

1. **Confirming you are registered to vote** and encourage your networks to do the same. You can register to vote electronically [here](#). Check your voter registration status [here](#).

2. **Asking your state and federal representatives to support the following efforts to protect voters' rights.** The contact information for elected officials is [here](#).
   - **Ask your senators to vote yes on S.561 - Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019.** The House of Representatives has already passed the bill and is waiting for the Senate to vote. Read the Senate bill [here](#).
   - **Ensure your state allows for no-excuse absentee voting.** This will increase access to voting in a safe manner given the current pandemic. Click [here](#) to see if your state allows for no-excuse absentee voting.
   - **Expand early access voting in your state.** Enabling people to access multiple days to vote prior to election day will decrease physical contact at polling stations and reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19. See [here](#) to determine if your state provides early access voting and if so, when it begins.
   - **Increase the number of polling stations in your state.**
   - **Support reasonable voter ID laws.** Voter identification requirements should effectively prevent fraud and not create a barrier to voting. Onerous and ineffective requirements are an obstacle to voting. See states' voter ID laws [here](#).

Throughout the upcoming months, CUGH will be sharing information on voters' rights and awareness.

We must defend democracy and ensure our voices are heard at the ballot box.

LET'S ALL GET OUT AND VOTE!

Best wishes,

Keith Martin, MD, PC
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