

Free Ohio Now Fighting the New Normal https://www.freeohionow.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREE OHIO NOW ORGANIZES NOVEMBER 2020: VOTE IN-PERSON RALLIES

Cleveland, Ohio, July 28, 2020 – Free Ohio Now announces Rally Around Ohio on Saturday, August 1 at 11 am to advocate for IN-PERSON VOTING on November 3, 2020. For rally details, go to freeohionow.com.

<u>FUNDEMENTAL PRINCIPLE AT STAKE</u>: One of the uniting principles throughout American history has been the belief in and support of fair and free elections. Even at this time of strong disagreement, as well as concern about medical issues, there is still <u>broad support</u> for VOTING IN-PERSON to ensure fair and free elections!

<u>IT IS A CIVIC DUTY</u>: Tom Hach, Free Ohio Now Core Team Member stated, "At this time when there is great disagreement on the future course of our country, it is critical everything possible be done to give all people confidence and faith the November 3, 2020 election will be conducted fairly and that the final results can be trusted, even by those who do not win. An essential piece in building the faith will be conducting IN-PERSON VOTING. To support unifying goal of a free and fair election, all able-bodied Ohioans should consider it a civic duty to step forward to do their part to help operate the polls on November 3, 2020."

<u>ISSUES WITH MAIL-IN BALLOTS:</u> Many issues regarding mail-in ballots have been documented in recent media stories. Mail-in ballots are rejected at a higher rate because the ballots are not signed or because they are sent too late. Recent primary elections have also demonstrated issues with local boards of election being able to get the absentee ballots to the correct address, as well as problems with effectively processing high volumes of absentee ballots. Every election is important but the November 2020 is more important than usual, and Ohio cannot afford to jeopardize the integrity of this important vote by eliminating in-person voting.

FAIR AND FREE ELECTIONS: WHAT IS NEEDED: In order to operate the polls in all 88 Ohio counties on November 3, Ohio Secretary of State Frank La Rose has stated about 35,000 people are needed. Though this may sound like a large number, this is less than 1% (0.3%) of Ohio's 11.6 million in population. Additionally, this is not a volunteer position, poll workers are paid about \$135 for their time and effort. Too much is at stake for our state and country for there not to be an option of IN-PERSON VOTING on November 3, 2020.

Free Ohio Now asks that all participants in the RALLY AROUND OHIO gatherings use their personal discretion in adhering to recommended COVID-19 safety guidelines. This is especially important for those who may be at high-risk.

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