

National business group calls for Senate filibuster reform

The American Sustainable Business Council is the first business organization to call for filibuster reform

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, July 13, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The American Sustainable Business Council ([ASBC](#)) today became the first major business organization to call for the Senate to amend its filibuster rules to allow passage of federal voting rights

legislation. In support of President Biden's speech today on voting rights and the fight to protect our democracy, the American Sustainable Business Council (ASBC) also reaffirms its support for the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. The defiance of the legislative process in recent days by politicians elected to represent their constituencies to

The logo for the American Sustainable Business Council (ASBC), featuring a green star with three white wavy lines passing through it.

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participate in the legislative process underscores the urgent need for S.1 passage.

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Jeffrey Hollender, Co-founder and CEO of ASBC.

“American Democracy is under attack in many states across the country,” said Jeffrey Hollender, Co-founder and CEO of ASBC. “Congress has a duty under Section 1 of the Constitution to protect every American's right to vote, but the current Senate filibuster rules clearly stand in the way of Congress protecting our rights.”

On behalf of the 250,000 businesses it represents, ASBC has been an outspoken advocate on behalf of both the For the People Act (S.1) and the John Lewis Voting Rights

Advancement Act. On a straight, party-line vote, all 50 Republicans invoked the filibuster last month to block consideration of S.1. It currently appears that the John Lewis bill would also fail to draw the support of the 60 Senators required to overcome a filibuster.

This weekend, House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC) urged the President to publicly endorse a “carve out” of the filibuster in which the Senate rules would be changed to permit

Constitutional issues, such as voting rights, to pass with a simple 51-vote majority. A similar “carve out” has been adopted in the last ten years for judicial nominations, including Supreme Court Justices.

ASBC is supporting a carve out to the filibuster for Constitutional and voting rights issues. This change, strongly advocated by House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC), would require only a majority vote in the Senate for legislation on these designated issues to pass the chamber.

The alternative filibuster change supported by ASBC is to lower the number of votes needed to override the obstruction tactic, although ASBC does not take a position on what that lower number should be. ASBC has posted an urgent [demand](https://asbc.salsalabs.org/calloncongresstoreformthefilibuster) for [filibuster reform](https://asbc.salsalabs.org/calloncongresstoreformthefilibuster) on its website <https://asbc.salsalabs.org/calloncongresstoreformthefilibuster>.

“We call on the U.S. Senate to take the needed actions to enable it to be faithful to our Constitution,” said Hollender. “A sustainable and just economy needs a strong democracy in which all Americans are able to participate with their votes and voices.”

The American Sustainable Business Council (ASBC) partners with business organizations and companies to advocate for solutions and policies that support an equitable, sustainable, just economy. We are a multi-issue, membership organization advocating on behalf of all sectors, sizes, and geographies of industry. ASBC and our association members collectively represent over 250,000 businesses across our networks.

We are coalition-focused in our innovative approach to solving pervasive and systemic issues. The issues on which ASBC works are climate and energy, infrastructure, circular economy including safer chemicals, and racial and economic equity, and protecting our democracy to create an economy and society in service of all stakeholders, not just shareholders. We are changing the rules by which business is done so it is better for all people and the environment as well as our economy.

Social Venture Circle (SVC) is a membership network that equips entrepreneurs, impact investors, and capacity-builders with connections, money, and expertise in order to build businesses that drive the NEXT economy: one that is regenerative, equitable and prosperous for all.

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