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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: House Democratic Caucus Members Respond to Federal Judge Striking Down Florida's Bad Anti-Protest Law

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## House Democratic Caucus Members Respond to Federal Judge Striking Down Florida's Bad Anti-Protest Law

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Today, **U.S. District Judge Mark Walker** <u>temporarily</u> <u>blocked a controversial anti-protest law</u>, citing concerns it was too vague and open to discriminatory selective enforcement.

During the 2021 Legislative Session, the House Democratic Caucus raised multiple concerns about HB 1, and unanimously <u>voted against</u> its passage.

Today, members of House Democratic Caucus issued the following statements:

**Co-Leader Evan Jenne (D- Hollywood)** stated, "The authors of HB 1 were told repeatedly in committee and on the House floor that the legislation was unconstitutional. I would say I am surprised, but experience has taught me otherwise. Wildly unconstitutional policy has become a normal occurrence in this legislature."

**Representative Fentrice Driskell (D- Tampa)** added, "Judge Walker came to the same conclusion we did back in March, that this law is vague and open to abuse. Our First Amendment rights are sacred and must be protected, but this would allow bad actors in government or law enforcement to persecute and punish people who they disagree with. It was written to score political points with their base, not to make Florida a safer or freer place to live. How much time and taxpayer money will Governor DeSantis waste to push this bad law onto us?"