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**Florida House Democratic Caucus Takes Caucus Position
Against HB 7041**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, the House Democratic Caucus voted 31-0 to take a caucus position in opposition of **HB 7041**.

HB 7041, and its counterpart **SB 90**, are two of the over 350 elections bills being pushed by Republicans across the country in the wake of the 2020 election. This push to restrict access to the polls represents an incredible attack against the rights of the voters nationwide and has sparked widespread condemnation.

The House bill makes drop boxes difficult and inconvenient, while the Senate bill removes them entirely. In the 2020 election, over 1.5 million Floridians cast their ballots by placing them in one of these secure drop boxes. They found this to be a safe and secure option during a deadly pandemic and a worrisome slow-down in the postal service.

Representative Michael Grieco (D- Miami Beach) called for the vote and offered the following statement, “After the most secure election in American history, one in which our state outperformed the rest of the country, Florida now apparently needs to question the integrity of its own great work. It doesn’t pass the smell test.”

Representative Tracie Davis (D- Jacksonville), the ranking Democratic member of the Public Integrity and Elections Committee added, “Floridians deserve equal freedom to vote and make our voices heard. For democracy to work it must include all of us. This is a step backwards, creating barriers to safe and accessible elections.”

“The Democratic Caucus stands against any infringement on the rights of Floridians to cast a safe ballot in a secure election,” said **Co-Leader Evan Jenne (D- Hollywood)**

“This is nothing more than an attempt to move the goalposts on voters and create deliberate barriers to casting a ballot. Florida’s supervisors of elections did not ask for these changes, the Governor called the 2020 election the “gold standard,” and yet here we are making significant unnecessary changes to our elections process. Frankly, it’s hard to take these bills at face value given what we’re seeing across the country.” said **Co-Leader Bobby DuBose (D- Fort Lauderdale)**.

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