Democracy Wins - October 19, 2026

Jane Ruby, LWV Chicago president, who is also a member of the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr. Young Voter Empowerment Law coalition, accepted a proclamation from both Chicago and Cook County governments recognizing the work behind this historic legislation. Passed in the Illinois General Assembly this year, the law will ensure that every Illinois high school offers nonpartisan voter registration to eligible students before they graduate. The real reward, she said, will be seeing generations of young people understand that their voices have power and their participation matters.

Over one million comments were received in opposition to the Trump administration's proposed repeal of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule, demonstrating overwhelming public support for protecting some of the nation's most treasured national forests.

In a win for voters, a Kansas appeals court denied the state's request to revive a GOP backed law that would throw out mail-in ballots received after Election Day, even if they were cast on time.

The ACLU, ACLU of Montana, and the Native American Rights Fund sued the state of Montana to compel it to fulfill its constitutional mandate to teach Indigenous history and culture in all public schools

The Voters' Right to Know Act, is Arizona's major campaign finance transparency law aimed at eliminating "dark money" by requiring disclosure of the true sources of large political contributions. It was passed by 72% of voters in 2022 and was recently upheld by the Appeals Court.

An appeals court rejected the Trump administration's latest attempt to access the confidential medical records of transgender New Yorkers.