Snapshot Series : Supreme Court Shelby v. Holder Decision Leaves Voting Rights Staggering

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Michael Matthew Bloomer, June 25, 2013

After exhaustive evidence-gathering and deliberative process, Congress reauthorized the VRA, including provision, with overwhelming bipartisan support. It was the judgment of Congress that “40 years has not been a sufficient amount of time to eliminate the vestiges of discrimination following nearly 100 years of disregard for the dictates of the 15th amendment and to ensure that the right of all citizens to vote is protected as guaranteed by the Constitution.” 2006 Reauthorization §2(b)(7), 120 Stat. 577. That determination of the body empowered to enforce the Civil War Amendments “by appropriate legislation” merits this Court’s utmost respect. In my judgment, the Court errs egregiously by overriding Congress’ decision.

Ginsburg, J. dissenting, *SHELBY COUNTY v. HOLDER*, Slip Op., June 25, 2o13

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Shelby County v. Holder, June 25, 2013