



More than 70 years ago, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson famously wrote in a case testing the limits of free speech: "[The Constitution is not a suicide pact.](#)"

If that is true about the foundational document of our government, it is all the more true of a [mere procedural rule](#) that allows any 41 senators from as few as 21 states to block the U.S. Senate from passing legislation on which there is broad popular support, including such important matters as voting rights, immigration reform, a minimum wage, and the formation of a commission to investigate the causes and implications of the Jan. 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol.?

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