The Radiance Foundation celebrates one of the most significant pieces of civil rights legislation which was signed into law on August 6, 1965 to reinforce and expand what had already been made law by the 15th Amendment. No one could use racial discrimination to prevent Americans from voting. Violators would be prosecuted. The Voting Rights Act, or VRA, was justice that was long overdue.

**Who voted for it?**

- 69% of Democrats
- 94% of Republicans

**Who voted against it?**

- 24% of Democrats
- 6% of Republicans

*Senate votes*

**It banned eugenics-based literacy tests as a prerequisite to vote.**

Source: www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/89-1965/s78

**28. Divide a vertical line in two equal parts by bisecting it with a curved horizontal line that is only straight at its spot bisection of the vertical.**

This is an actual question (1 of 30) on a 1964 Louisiana Literacy Test. Hopeful voters had only 10 minutes to answer all questions correctly.

**It gave authority to the attorney general to prosecute those who used poll taxes to violate the VRA.**

**Some in Congress didn’t like the amendment to the VRA which punished those using poll taxes.**

- 54% of Democrats
- 22% of Republicans

Source: www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/89-1965/s56

Source: www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/40-3/H647

Radiance Foundation

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