

# Legislation and Policy Brief

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## Editor's Welcome

Julie Flower

*American University, Washington College of Law*

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**EDITOR'S WELCOME**

Dear Readers,

Welcome to Volume 9 Issue 1 of the *American University Legislation & Policy Brief*. The *Brief* is a bipartisan publication that was formed several years ago by Congressperson Jamie Raskin. After a hiatus, Professor Fernando Laguarda and a group of students resurrected the *Brief*. In such an unprecedented time, the *Brief* is thrilled to add to its legacy by publishing Volume 9.

In a time when politics are becoming more polarizing and conversations often avoid differing viewpoints, the *Brief* holds a space for all political opinions without avoiding the tough topics. This issue features a forward from Kim Wehle as well as two articles and one student comment. The articles cover alternatives to the Electoral College, the Senate Filibuster and gun control, and the U.S. asylum system. Further policy discussions can be found on our blog at [legislationandpolicy.com](http://legislationandpolicy.com). I am proud to be involved in a publication that holds space for these conversations.

I would like to thank the authors for writing such salient articles. Thank you also to the Editorial Board and the Staff of the *Brief* for their hard-work and perseverance in compiling this issue. Thank you in particular to the *Brief's* Executive Editor, Matthew Itzkowitz, for his dedication, taking everything from staffing changes to the COVID-19 crisis in stride to bring this issue to life.

Thank you also to the Program on Law and Government, for investing its financial resources into the *Brief*. And thank you particularly to our faculty advisor, Professor Laguarda, for his unwavering support and advice.

It has been an honor to serve as the Editor-in-Chief for Volume 9. I hope that this issue inspires bipartisan conversations and deep dialogues.

All the best,



Julie Flower

Editor-in-Chief

*American University Legislation & Policy Brief*