

A Resolution on Student Voter Participation

Presented on: 3/26/2018

Adopted on: 3/26/2018

- Sponsor** Representative of College of Arts and Sciences Norah Johnson
- Co-sponsors** Vice President of ASNMU Connor Loftus, Chair of Student Affairs and Woods Hall Representative Simon Moesch, Director of Public Relations and College of Arts and Sciences Representative Chloe Anderson.
- Recognizing,** that youth voter participation in elections is low, and that only 50% of the age demographic of 18-24 year olds voted in the 2016 election.
- Noting,** that the demographic of eighteen to twenty-four year olds are the lowest voting demographic and have been for the past fifty-five years.
- Being,** one of the most energetic and passionate demographic and the future of this country this data is unacceptable and the youth deserve to have their voices heard.
- Acknowledging,** that it can be difficult and too much of a burden to vote and participate in our democracy for our students with having classes throughout the day and other commitments such as jobs.
- Recognizing,** that the university has to (meet a standard number of days) of classes being held each academic year and that the creation of an academic holiday could prevent the university from reaching its required amount of in class time, (a more logical solution would be to allow the excusal of students to a participate in polls) and noting that excusing students would be a better alternative to this.
- Therefore,** be it enacted by the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University, for the betterment of the students it serves, that the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University formally advocate for helping students in having the opportunity of participating in our democratic elections.
- Be it resolved,** the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University to address this issue request that students be excused for missing class if they are voting in local, state, and federal elections. We request this so that students can have the opportunity to vote in our democracy. A copy of this resolution will be sent to Northern Michigan University Board of Trustees, the University President, the Academic Senate, and other groups it may concern.

X

Tristan Ruiz, President

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Cody Mayer, Chair of Assembly

National Public Radio. 2016. Facts on youth voter data.

<https://www.npr.org/2016/05/16/478237882/millennials-now-rival-boomers-as-a-political-force-but-will-they-actually-vote>

The Brookings Institution. 2016. How millennials voted this election.

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/fixgov/2016/11/21/how-millennials-voted/>