

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY
THE NINETY-SIXTH STUDENT SENATE
FALL TERM TWO THOUSAND NINE**

RESOLUTION NO. S.Res-96-008

AUTHORED BY: The Political Action Committee
SUPPORTED BY:

A RESOLUTION TO: TO PROACTIVELY SUPPORT THE STUDENT VOTER ACT VIA FINANCIAL AIDE
or ADMISSIONS OFFERING VOTER REGISTRATION TO STUDENTS DURING ENROLLMENT

THE STUDENT BODY OF EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY ENACTS:

WHEREAS, empirical evidence indicates that voter registration is the greatest hurdle to youth voter participation;

DECLARING, colleges and universities have a special obligation to equip students for a lifetime of civic participation;

HAVING EXAMINED, a study done by CIRCLE, the Center *for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement*, 32% of
18-29 year olds who did not participate in the election did so because of uncertainties in the registration process;

GUIDED BY, the fact that the health of a democracy depends on an active, critical, and informed citizenry;

RECOGNIZING, the importance students taking part in the selection of their political officials and the historical precedents of low
youth involvement and participation in elections;

NOTING WITH DISSATISFACTION, the current practices of offering students voter registration occur primarily during electoral
seasons (particularly those years of a presidential election);

BELIEVING, that enforcing student voter registration during enrollment will have a more profound positive effect on the percentage
of EMU students who are registered to vote and encourage civic engagement among the student body;

BEARING IN MIND, the legislation will result in relatively minimal administrative and cost burdens considering the potential
impact;

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the passing of the federal legislation, universities who receive federal funds, including this one, would be
designated by the federal government as "voter registration agencies";

BE IT FURHER RESOLVED, Eastern Michigan University should a show "good faith effort" to offer voter registration to all
students.

INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

VOTE REQUIRED:

SENATE VOTE TOTALS:

 15 PASS

 0 FAIL

 0 SILENT CONSENT

 X AUTHORIZE

 VETO

CLERK OF THE SENATE

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT