

RESOLUTION TO ENACT UNIVERSAL VOTER REGISTRATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, the right to vote is the heart of American democracy, yet in every election hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians are not registered to vote, and

WHEREAS, the other developed democracies have universal voter registration systems with near 90% of voters registered, resulting in a 63% to 90% Western Europe turnout, while in America voter registration is voluntary, much like voting itself, and state and local boards of election register voters resulting in many North Carolinians unregistered, with highly unsatisfactory turnout;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Randolph County NC Democratic Party supports the following changes to the voting registration system to accomplish North Carolina universal voter registration: (1) Use existing government databases to automatically register to vote all U.S. citizens 18 years and older, similar to the new Oregon law which directs its DMV to provide the Secretary of State names of qualified electors to be registered. (2) Create a fail-safe policy to ensure voters left off the rolls can register and vote on election day. (3) Provide every U.S. citizen, upon birth or naturalization, a voter registration number similar to a social security number to be used in all elections and activated when a voter turns 18. (4) Set a voter pre-registration age of 16 years to automatically pre-register youth, tying this policy to a "national voting curriculum" in every high school. (5) Require U.S. citizens to register to vote when completing taxes or actively opt-out of the process. (6) Tie Post Office Change of Address forms to the voter registration database. (7) Require state or local governments to send every residence a notice of those registered at that location. Residents may then make changes as needed and return the updated form.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to all North Carolina state legislators, the NC Secretary of State, and the Governor.