

**WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

S.R. 6

Make Election Day a Day of Civic Service

Fall 2020

September 29, 2020	Introduced by Speaker of the House Ally Swartzberg, Chief of Staff Drew Skilton, Academic Co-Chair Braden Strackman, Judiciary Co-Chair Ethan Wearer, Academic Co-Chair Ava Liberty, Judiciary Co-Chair Sebastiano Tibolla
October 3, 2020	Submitted to the Speaker of the House
October 5, 2020	Messaged to the Senate
October 6, 2020	Resolution passed by the Senate

RESOLUTION

1 **WHEREAS:** On November 3rd, 2020, a general election will be held and students will have the
2 opportunity to be involved in the election process, and;

3
4 **WHEREAS:** As an institution of higher education, Wake Forest is tasked with encouraging civic
5 engagement and voting of its students, and;

6
7 **WHEREAS:** In the spirit of Pro Humanitate, a key facet of which is civic engagement, we are
8 “[called] to use our knowledge, talents and compassion to better the lives of others,” and;

9
10 **WHEREAS:** Compared to peer institutions, Wake Forest falls remarkably short when it comes
11 to voter turnout. In the 2016 Presidential election, 73.2 percent of Wake Forest students were
12 registered to vote , but the voting rate was only 41.1 percent,¹ and;

13
14 **WHEREAS:** Designating November 3 as A Day of Civic Service would promote voter turnout
15 and civic engagement in the spirit of Pro Humanitate and send a vitally important message to
16 the student body.

¹ [Wake Forest University Action Plan 2020](#)

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1) Election Day — November 3, 2020 — should be designated a Day of Civic Service at Wake Forest.
- 2) Faculty are encouraged to select one of the following options in lieu of synchronous class on November 3, 2020:
 - a) Cancellation of class.
 - b) Asynchronous class: cancelling synchronous class--such as Zoom, Webex, Google Meet, in-person meetings, etc. -- and substituting those with recorded lectures or other methods of asynchronous content deliverance.
 - c) Cancellation of one class during the early voting period with a note to students that class is being cancelled so that they can vote in the General Election.
 - d) Excused absence from class on November 3rd, 2020 in order to vote, register to vote, or participate in university-sponsored civic engagement activities.
- 3) Upon its passage, this resolution shall be distributed to the Office of the Dean of the College, the Faculty Senate, and all academic Department Chairs in both the Undergraduate School of Business and College of Arts and Sciences.
- 4) The attached proposal shall be included as an extra material with this resolution upon its passage.²

Respectfully Submitted,

Ally Swartzberg <i>Speaker of the House</i> <i>Co-Chair, General Election Advisory</i>	Drew Skilton <i>Chief of Staff</i> <i>Co-Chair, General Election Advisory</i>	Braden Strackman <i>Co-Chair, Academic</i>
Ethan Wearer <i>Co-Chair, Judiciary</i>	Ava Liberty <i>Co-Chair, Academic</i>	Sebastiano Tibolla <i>Co-Chair, Judiciary</i>

² [Proposal to Make Election Day a Day of Civic Service](#)

