



Fall 2020 - R#F1.20

Sponsor(s): Christian Williams, College of Engineering Senator

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

A Resolution to Allow Excused Absences for Election Day

*Whereas,*

1. The date to vote for the upcoming General Election is Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020 (Election Day). On this day, registered voters in the United States of America elect the next President of the United States, who will serve for the next 4 years. Registered voters in the state of Alabama will also choose a United States Congressional Senator who will represent the state for the next 6 years; and
2. On Election Day, professors and instructors are holding regular course sessions, either online or in-person, which could possibly conflict with a students' ability to cast their vote during the 7 am to 7 pm time window; and
3. A poll was sent out to the student body<sup>1</sup> that asked about the accessibility of voting on Election Day and 55% of students said that allowing excused absences would make it easier to vote. Open responses of respondents who answered yes to the voting accessibility question included, "My polling place is 50 minutes from school.", "I'm still registered in Tennessee, so I will have to drive there in order to vote.", and " Because I would feel more enabled to vote in person. Especially since waiting to vote can take a long time."<sup>1</sup>.

*Therefore,* let it be hereby resolved that The Student Government Association of The University of Alabama in Huntsville shall:

1. Recommend that all professors implement excused absences for the students on Election Day to allow students to exercise their right to vote with no apprehension.



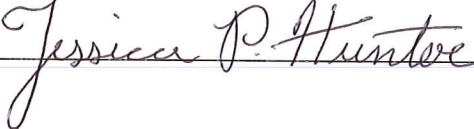
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2. Recommend that this resolution be enacted for students to exercise their civil liberty given to them as registered voters.

*Furthermore*, copies of this resolution shall be sent to the following:

Dr. Christine Curtis, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Christi Motter, Vice President for Student Affairs; Nikki Goode, SGA Advisor

Vice President's Signature:  Date: 10/27/2020

President's Signature:  Date: 10/27/2020

1:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZWgGjmBF6cLT0to\\_gaRvs51vITHuqTXvykWeGd-NDKA/viewform?gxids=7757&edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZWgGjmBF6cLT0to_gaRvs51vITHuqTXvykWeGd-NDKA/viewform?gxids=7757&edit_requested=true)