**Bill Status:**



**University of Colorado Student Government**

**Legislative Council**

**Date 5 February 2015 82 LCR02 \_\_ —Making Voter Registration Easier to Access**

**Sponsored by:** Joseph Soto Student-at-Large

Dylan Roberts Law School Co-Senator

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**A Resolution to Encourage Voter Participation**

**Bill History**

For many members of Legislative Council, voter participation is a critical issue. Regardless of political affiliation or political ideology, more people being registered to vote means there is a greater opportunity for more people to vote. If more people register to vote early, nonpartisan organizations and issue advocacy groups have more time to spend actually educating likely voters.

Low voter turnout is unfortunately characteristic of our generation and the young-voter demographic more generally. It is a priority of CUSG to make it as easy as possible to register to vote.

**Bill Summary**

This resolution encourages CUSG to partner with Information Technology (IT) and University Communications (UComm) in making voter registration easily accessible.

**Whereas,** voting is one of the most important rights and responsibilities of being an American.

**Whereas,** turnout for the last election was 57.11% statewide and only minimally higher in Boulder County at 57.19%.

**Whereas,** students moving into campus housing often fail to register for voting here in Colorado or request a mail-in ballot from their home state.

**Whereas,** students often do not have the time to stop for three minutes to fill out a voter registration form when approached on campus to do so.

**Whereas,** registering as many voters as possible would allow students and civic organizations more time in the fall to focus on voter education and issue advocacy.

**Whereas,** CUSG should take action to make voting easier for students whenever it can.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, THAT:**

**Section 1:** CUSG should work with IT to install a window that comes up before a student can register for classes. That window should ask, “Would you like to register to vote/update your voter registration?” That window should have three responses a student can click on that read, “Yes, No, Remind Me Later.”

**Section 2:** CUSG should work with UComm to develop a better plan for reaching eligible voters during the voter registration process by using CU-Boulder Today and CU Boulder’s social media platform.

**Section 3:** CUSG should make voter registration a larger part of its website from August to October when students in the fall register to vote.

**Section 4:** CUSG should look for opportunities to partner with Residence Hall Association (RHA) and Housing and Dining to create sustainable, long-term programs that encourage freshmen and other students living in the residence halls to vote.

**Section 5:** CUSG and campus administration should work with the Boulder County Clerk and Recorder to identify a more visible and accessible location for the on-campus voting center that is different than the location used in the 2014 general election.

**Section 6:** This resolution shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

**Vote Count:**

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Rachel Leonard Juedon Kebede

Legislative Council President Tri-Executive

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Lora Roberts Chelsea Canada

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