**Resolution Status:**



**University of Colorado Student Government**

**Legislative Council**

**Date 4/18/2016 84 LCR 09 — Support of Automatic Voter Registration**

**Sponsored by:**

Joseph Soto President of External Affairs

Boneth Ahaneku President of Internal Affairs

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**Authored by**:

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**A Resolution in Support of Automatic Voter Registration in the State of Colorado**

**Resolution History**

Students have a history of being active on the University of Colorado Boulder campus, from those advocating for more liberal voting policies to those fighting for civil rights for any number of communities. CU Student Government has a thriving and established relationship with many of the students and student groups fighting for a greater student voice. Many of these students and student groups engage themselves in voter registration.

Voter registration takes a lot of time, effort, and resources, three of many reasons why some states have chosen to switch to an automatic voter registration system. States across the country continue to fight for this, and students continue to be at the forefront of this change. CU Student Government took an interest in this at the beginning of the semester and has tried to research this topic and scope out what support might look like for this at the Legislature and at the ballot box. CUSG is by no means the only organization working for automatic voter registration, but this is important to students and this resolution is the next step in the process, which will like stretch over multiple administrations.

**Resolution Summary**

This resolution affirms CU Student Government’s support for automatic voter registration in the state of Colorado. This resolution encourages the state of Colorado to adopt an automatic voter registration system, and further encourages students to remain leaders in this movement.

**Whereas,** voting is among the most important of American liberties and is arguably the most direct check people have on their government;

**Whereas,** voting has been made more difficult for many people in the United States in recent years due to arduous voter ID laws;

**Whereas,** college students continue to be some of the hundreds of thousands of voters across the nation impacted by unfair and discriminatory voter ID laws;

**Whereas,** voting in state and local elections while a student at the University of Colorado Boulder is an important part of being an engaged, active citizen and is an important component of making sure both state and local government is as responsive and representative of students and student concerns as possible;

**Whereas,** student leaders on campus from CUSG and from organizations such as New Era and Copirg have continued to register hundreds of voters every semester on campus and have historically shown a dedication to engaging students in the political process already;

**Whereas,** automatic voter registration would remove the burden on resources that funding and managing voter registration drives has on organizations in our community and in other college communities across the state;

**Whereas,** automatic voter registration would allow community organizers more time and resources to educate voters in a non-partisan manner on political issues and create not only a larger voter turnout, but a more educated voter turnout as well;

**Whereas,** automatic voter registration would effectively remove the potential for discriminatory practices and policies against the voting status of people based on any distinguishing demographic, including education status;

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

**Section 1:** CU Student Government affirms its support for automatic voter registration (AVR) in the state of Colorado, and compels the Tri-Executives and other representatives of CUSG to actively support AVR.

**Section 2:** CU Student Government encourages the state of Colorado to establish an AVR system either by the legislative process or by referendum.

**Section 3:** CU Student Government applauds those who have been so dedicated to registering voters, and encourages them and others who haven’t been as involved to continue registering voters now while we work towards automatic voter registration.

**Section 4:** The resolution shall take effect upon final passage in Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives and the Legislative Council President or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

**Vote Count:**

4/21/16 Passed 1st Reading acclamation

4/28/16 Passed 2nd Reading acclamation

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Nicolas Trevino John Lurquin

Legislative Council President President of Student Affairs

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Boneth Ahaneku Joseph Soto

President of Internal Affairs President of External Affairs