

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

BILL NO. 55-10

INTRODUCED BY: HAWKINS

SECONDED BY: HORNE

A RESOLUTION TO: Increase Student Opportunities to Vote in the 2018 Elections.

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, The Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) has historically taken numerous actions to increase student engagement in elections, countering numerous legal and societal obstacles, and

WHEREAS, Michigan Election law requires first-time voters to vote in person on election day if they registered by mail¹, precluding many students from voting absentee before the election, and

WHEREAS, In US Census Population Surveys taken in the last 10 national election years², a busy/conflicted schedule was one of the most common reasons given for not voting by respondents, and

WHEREAS, Obligations such as classes and work schedules greatly limit the ability of students to vote in person, and coupled with long wait times at the polls, many students are turned away from voting altogether, and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the importance of increasing voter turnout in the student population, ASMSU is committed to addressing any and all barriers to civic engagement for the student body, be it now

RESOLVED, The Associated Students of Michigan State University call on all faculty and teaching assistants to not penalize students for using their class periods to vote in the state and national elections on November 6th, 2018, and be it further

RESOLVED, ASMSU calls on MSU administration to establish a university holiday for Election Day falling on the first Tuesday after November 1st, to be included in all future academic calendars.

¹ MCL 168.509t (2)

²Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, (November 2016, November 2014, November 2012, November 2010, November 2008, November 2006, November 2004, November 2002, November 2000).

*"Too busy/conflicted schedule" is the most common reason in every year except for 2016, where dislike for the candidates was the most common reason.

INTRODUCED ON October 11, 2018

REFERRED TO Policy COMMITTEE ON 10/11/18

COMMITTEE ACTION	<u>X</u>		Voice	<u>10/11/18</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>		Voice	<u>10/18/18</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

Kephus
PRESIDENT

Mario Hakus
VPIA

