

1 2015 RES-290
2 URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON TO ENSURE
3 STUDENT ACCESS TO VOTING
4

5 Recent statutory changes to Wisconsin election law now require voters to present certain valid
6 photo identification in order to vote. One form of valid identification can be a student ID issued
7 by an accredited Wisconsin college or university, but only if it meets certain criteria. One criteria
8 is that the issue date of the ID be two years or less of the expiration date, both of which need to
9 be displayed on the ID.

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11 Madison College, Edgewood, UW-Green Bay and UW-Superior and others have opted to alter
12 their ID to conform with the new law. UW- Madison so far has not. Since out of state drivers
13 licenses and other many other forms of ID are not valid for the purposes of voting, most out of
14 state students will most likely rely on a student ID to vote. Since their out of state driver's
15 license and their UW ID will cannot be accepted by law, students will need to get a different UW
16 ID just for voting.

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18 The 2016 election will be the first Presidential election under the new law and Madison and
19 Dane County have not experienced a Presidential election with the new Voter ID legislation in
20 place. A special election in Waukesha County showed that on average, the time it takes a voter
21 to get a ballot from a poll worker doubles.

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23 The effect the law will have on some student area polling places could be dramatic, as the long
24 line for same day voter registration will lead into an even longer line to get a ballot. This is
25 exacerbated by the new need for a second ID for nearly 14,000 out of state students. Long
26 lines for IDs and at the polling place are a major deterrent to voting. Thousands of students will
27 likely not vote in the Presidential election who would have voted but for a lack of ID or
28 exceptionally long lines.

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30 In 2014, 8,000 voters in student wards registered to vote at the polling place on election day.
31 Roughly a third of those voters would somehow have to also get a second ID before they
32 headed to the polls, unless they voted provisionally. Large scale provisional voting, in which
33 ballots are secured and separated in order to be verified with an ID after the election, would be
34 the worst scenario. Each provisional ballot takes five minutes on average to process. That
35 would create massive lines that would affect all campus voters.

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37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors calls upon
38 the University of Wisconsin-Madison to alter their student ID cards, as UW Green Bay, UW-
39 Superior, and others have, to conform to the new Voter ID law in order to insure every student's
40 right to vote and participate in their democracy.

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42 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be given to the Office of the
43 Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.