

Issue: Voter Accessibility

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Endorsements:

Proposed Action Agenda Item Title:

State of Emergency/ Student Success

1) Describe the Issue (what is the problem & what is the solution).

The issue is that communities of color in the United States are under attack, and have been so for quite a long time. This injustice stems from a history of racism in the United States that has not been fully addressed or rectified, and from policies that continue to perpetuate a racially disparate impacting American society.

What are you advocating for

Voter Empowerment Act (H.R. 12/S. 123): the purpose of it is to reinforce the constitutional right to vote regardless of race, gender, or ability.

- Mandate that the state and local voting agencies cannot prevent people from voting on the federal level.
- Allow people who have been convicted of a criminal offense to vote in Federal elections unless they're serving a felony sentence at the time of the election
- Amend National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to treat universities as voter registration agencies.

End Racial Profiling Act (H.R. 2851 / S. 1038)

- provides a prohibition on racial profiling, and is enforceable by declaratory or injunctive relief
- mandates training on racial profiling issues as part of Federal law enforcement training, the collection of data on all routine or spontaneous investigatory activities that would be sent to the Department of Justice
- The Attorney General will have an ongoing role in checking in and providing reports in assessing the ongoing discriminatory profiling practices

USSA Demands:

Demand a specific increase in the number of students of color on-campus, and demand admissions policies/personnel that will allow the university meet those goals.

- Demand a specific increase in the number of faculty or counselors of color on your campus.
- Demand additional funding and/or space for any of the following:
 - o Students of color organizations
 - o Campus ethnic or cultural centers

o Ethnic studies programs

- Demand faculty, staff, and/or campus police undergo more robust trainings on oppression and racial discrimination.
- Demand that campus police wear body cameras to prevent violence against students of color.
- Demand that merit-based aid programs (which primarily serve middle class and white students) that are administered by your college/university be transformed into need-based aid programs.
- Demand counseling programs or other forms of support for students of color dealing with the stressors of being a student of color on a predominantly white campus.
- Demand that your college/university fund student-led outreach programs to recruit students of color to attend your school.