Congressional Resolution NO. 16-17-37

Sponsors: IUSA Oversight and Reform Committee. Filed on 2/14/17 Considered on 2/14/17 with a final disposition of (PASS/FAIL) 2 abs

Resolution to update the Election Code, Straight Ticket Voting

WHEREAS, currently, Section 306 reads:

Section 306: Voting Processes.
The ballot for the IUSA Election shall first identify all eligible tickets and provide a brief self-overview of each ticket’s platforms. This overview will be required to meet standardized word count and formatting requirements per Section 111. The ballot shall include Executive candidates and Congressional candidates. Voters can select up to four (4) congressional seats per Section 301. Voters can select one and only one executive ticket (FPTP) or opt to abstain from the executive election -- change from Resolution to update the Election Code, First Past the Post (FPTP) (if approved) Each candidate shall be listed on the ballot by their first and last name only, unless the Election Commission has approved the use of a preferred name. Each Congressional candidate shall have the option to place their ticket affiliation next to their name. Executive candidates must designate ticket affiliation. Furthermore, no voting process shall be allowed that is contrary to the provisions provided in this Code.

WHEREAS, the United States election process provides the Straight Ticket option

WHEREAS, this method allows for students to easily and quickly participate in the voting process

WHEREAS, congressional voting numbers will likely decrease if the student must manually select each person

WHEREAS, students should be given the ability to determine for themselves rather they can vote straight ticket

WHEREAS, students have verbally expressed to members of the IORC committee that they would prefer the ability to vote straight ticket

WHEREAS, that the IOR Committee will draft legislation, by the end of the current term, to address the issue of reselection for congress seats that are vacant. This legislation will focus on establishing a formal procedure for selections that contain a more democratic component, such as special elections or runner-up appointments.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, we amend the election code Section 306 to read

Section 306: Voting Processes.
The ballot for the IUSA Election shall first identify all eligible tickets and provide a brief self-overview of each ticket’s platform. This overview will be required to meet standardized word count and formatting requirements per Section 111. The ballot shall include Executive candidates and Congressional candidates. Voters can select up to four (4) congressional seats per Section 301. Voters may select one and only one executive ticket (FPTP) or opt to abstain from the executive election -- change from Resolution to update the Election Code, First Past the Post (FPTP) (if approved). Voters may also opt to vote straight ticket for all the candidates falling under a specific ticket affiliation. An alert advising of seats with unaffiliated candidates will be provided on the straight ticket voting screen. Each
candidate shall be listed on the ballot by their first and last name only, unless the Election Commission has approved the use of a preferred name. Each Congressional candidate shall have the option to place their ticket affiliation next to their name. Executive candidates must designate ticket affiliation. Furthermore, no voting process shall be allowed that is contrary to the provisions provided in this Code.

Respectfully Submitted

Dakota Coates

Chair of the Oversight and Reform Committee