

STUDENT SENATE FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES



1102 Q Street, 6th floor, Sacramento, CA 95811-6549
(916) 445 - 1729 www.studentsenateccc.org

DATE

Dear President (_____) [THIS IS THE COLLEGE PRESIDENT NOT ASO PRESIDENT]

Our student government organization, [YOUR ASO'S NAME] relies on Student Senate for California Community Colleges, which represents 2.3 million community college students in the 114 community colleges in California, to bring through system participatory governance, legislative and policy advocacy, and regional support and development. As part of the Student Senate, the Student Vote Project initiative was brought to our attention early and we are excited to share our support to the Project.

We, the [YOUR ASO NAME] proudly support the Student Vote Project, an effort led by Sec. of State Padilla and Lt. Gov. Newsom, which will implement practices throughout California colleges and universities that promote student voter registration and participation.

The Student Senate for California Community Colleges has a standing role in increasing civic engagement in community colleges, and as a local student government, we want to ensure we follow the same goal at our college. Recently, an email was sent from the Vice Chancellor of the California Community Colleges encouraging Community College administrators to join the project and get in contact with the leaders. We strongly urge you to reply to the email and identify what [YOUR COLLEGE NAME] can do better regarding civic engagement activities.

In our current climate, community college students are not involved in the civic process. In the November 2014 elections, only 52% of eligible California youth registered to vote, and only 8% of those voters came to vote.¹ As student advocates, we cannot ignore these statistics. Community college students should feel empowered and inspired to vote, and there is no better place to start that trend, than in our own community college campus.

[MORE INFORMATION ON YOUR OWN DEMOGRAPHIC] .

To better assist campuses, the Student Vote Project coalition leaders will create an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with you to outline the needed steps our colleges can and should take to increase civic engagement. This agreement would establish a historic partnership between our campus and the CA Secretary of State's office as we work to our shared goal of creating a democracy that is more inclusive of the voices of students. We hope when the coalition partners meet with your team, you identify an appropriate agreement for the MOU and sign with students in mind.

¹ California Civic Engagement Project, UC Davis Center for Regional Change, California's New Political Realities: The Impact of Youth Vote on Our Electoral Landscape, Policy Brief Issue 9, January 2015.

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[MORE PERSONAL ASK]

We hope to hear a response from you shortly to see whether this is something our college can support overall. If you are interested in getting our campus immediately involved in the project, please go to this [link](#) and fill the necessary information so the Secretary of State's office can meet with you. (Link: <https://goo.gl/hFSRAs>)

Should you have questions on the Student Senate for California Community Colleges' support stance or on project as a whole, please email the Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Tabitha Romero at vpla@studentsenateccc.org.

Sincerely,

[ASO President]

Printed Name

Title