CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION NO. 940303
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GF15-23

AS INTRODUCED
A Resolution requesting the official recognition of election days as holidays; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: The University of Oklahoma and its students recognize the importance of voting; and
Whereas: In the 2014 general election, 80% of college aged voters did not participate in the election; and
Whereas: Voting is the mechanism for representation and change in a properly functioning democracy; and
Whereas: Adequate student representation by way of voting is the best way to ensure students’ needs are represented nationally; and
Whereas: The University of Oklahoma has seen repeated tuition increases as a result of decreased state funding which imposes direct cost on students, an action which could be countered by increased student presence at the polls; and
Whereas: The responsibilities students encounter on a typical weekday vary greatly, but often include obligations such as work or class attendance, that may hinder directly or indirectly the student’s ability to vote; and
Whereas: Senate Bill S1969 is one of several pieces of legislation put forth that advocates for increased voter participation through the designation of Election Day as a federal holiday,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS THAT:

Section 1: The University of Oklahoma students support designating the next Tuesday after the first Monday in the November of even-numbered years as ‘Democracy Day’.

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma students support SB 1969 of the 114th United States Congress.
Section 3: The University of Oklahoma students further support any action or effort made by the Oklahoma State legislature, and the University of Oklahoma administration to designate this day as a state or university holiday to encourage higher participation in local, state, and national civic responsibilities.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President David Boren, The University of Oklahoma President
- Senator Bernard Sanders, United States Senator for Vermont
- Senator Jim Inhofe, United States Senator for Oklahoma
- Senator James Lankford, United States Senator for Oklahoma
- Representative Tom Cole, United States Representative for Oklahoma
- Senator David Holt, Oklahoma State Senator
- Bryan Dean, Oklahoma State Election Board
- Stephen Holman, Norman City Council Ward 7 Representative
- The Norman Transcript
- The Oklahoman
- The OU Daily
- Tulsa World

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Representative Timothy Crisp, Undergraduate Student Congress

Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by Congress:
Verified by Chair of Congress: __________________________ Date: __________

Submitted on a Motion by:
Action taken by Senate:
Verified by Chair of Senate: __________________________ Date: __________

Approved by SGA President: __________________________ Date: __________

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