



## **NASS Voting Rights Resolution**

Approved February 15, 2004

Amended and Reapproved July 19, 2009

WHEREAS, the right to vote is one of the most important rights of citizenship in a democratic country; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than sixty-five percent of white, non-Hispanic voting-age citizens exercised their right to vote in the 2004 presidential election, compared to sixty percent of voting-age African-American citizens, forty-seven percent of Hispanic citizens and forty-four percent of Asian citizens; and

WHEREAS, the nation's secretaries of state are firmly committed to protecting each citizen's right to vote, and by extension, each citizen's right to register to vote; and

WHEREAS, NASS supports all voter registration efforts in America whose goal is to enfranchise all qualified voters; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) continues to achieve reforms designed to improve voter turnout and election administration, including support of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the 1993 National Voter Registration Act and the Help America Vote Act of 2002; and

WHEREAS, previous NASS resolutions and initiatives have addressed low voter turnout with our continued efforts to encourage turnout and by forming a Voter Participation Committee and establishing the New Millennium Young Voters Project, an initiative intended to increase voter participation among 18 to 24-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, NASS continues to work with civil and disability rights groups to educate Congress and the public on the importance of key election reforms;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) heartily encourages all citizens to participate in elections; and will continue to work with civil and disability rights groups to educate Congress and the public on the importance of key election reforms.

Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2009  
in Minneapolis, MN

EXPIRES: Summer 2014