

Resolution supporting automatic voter registration legislation

Whereas, about 15 percent of all eligible Massachusetts citizens are not registered to vote, a result that is unacceptable in a democratic society;

Whereas, in every other democratic nation, the government has the affirmative obligation to ensure that every eligible citizen is registered to vote;

Whereas, at a time when some other states and the federal government are erecting obstacles to voter participation, it is especially important for Massachusetts to ensure that all eligible citizens are able to vote;

Whereas, automatic voter registration will enfranchise large numbers of new voters by registering them when they interact with state agencies, while at the same time safeguarding against fraud, including by promptly updating voter lists when voters move away;

Whereas, six states – including our neighbors Connecticut and Vermont – have already successfully adopted this important election reform; and

Whereas, House bill 2091 and Senate bill 373 would enact automatic voter registration in Massachusetts; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Arlington Democratic Committee requests our state senator and representatives to support prompt passage of automatic voter registration legislation; and be it further

Resolved, that the Arlington Democratic Committee also requests our Democratic State Committee members to support a similar resolution by the Democratic State Committee.