

**WHEREAS**, the Faculty of Wright State University is committed to nurturing its students to be engaged and informed participants in our democratic system.

**WHEREAS**, voting and participation in the electoral process is the duty and right of every United States' citizen eighteen years of age or older; and

**WHEREAS**, obligations or requirements to attend work and school on Election Day may present barriers to citizens' capacities to exercise this right; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that these obligations create disproportionate barriers for those who are lower income, belong to racial/ethnic minority communities, experience disability, and/or have caregiving responsibilities, such as parenting; and

**WHEREAS**, closing the University on the federal Election Day each November would eliminate barriers to faculty, staff, and students of the Wright State community to participate in the electoral process by voting and/or serving as polling location officials; and

**WHEREAS**, declaring each Election Day a University holiday would demonstrate Wright State University's stated commitment to Inclusive Excellence; and

**WHEREAS**, declaring each Election Day a University holiday is a small, but significant, effort that Wright State University can contribute to rectifying historical inequalities in voter participation and creating a more inclusive future, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Faculty Senate assembled at Wright State University request that each year on the federal Election Day, Wright State University be closed and declared a University holiday.