

## House Resolution 235

By: Representatives Frye of the 118<sup>th</sup>, Clark of the 108<sup>th</sup>, Wilensky of the 79<sup>th</sup>, Alexander of the 66<sup>th</sup>, McLaurin of the 51<sup>st</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Congress to pass a constitutional amendment to establish voting as  
2 a right granted to all eligible United States citizens; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, all 50 states explicitly provide the right to vote for their citizens in their  
4 constitutions; and

5 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution does not recognize an inherent right to vote in  
6 direct and explicit terms; and

7 WHEREAS, the Fifteenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-sixth Amendments establish the right to  
8 equal treatment, but they do not establish an inherent right to vote; and

9 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution once restricted voting to property-holding white  
10 men; and

11 WHEREAS, the right to vote is an indispensable function of democracy; and

12 WHEREAS, the right to vote is acknowledged in the United States Naturalization Test; and

13 WHEREAS, establishing the right to vote in the United States Constitution would grant the  
14 legitimacy of a representative electoral body; and

15 WHEREAS, establishing the right to vote in the United States Constitution ensures  
16 inclusivity; and

17 WHEREAS, establishing the right to vote in the United States Constitution empowers  
18 individuals facing barriers to voting to defend their inherent and inalienable right to  
19 participate in democracy; and

20 WHEREAS, every citizen of the United States of at least 18 years has an inherent right to  
21 vote; and

22 WHEREAS, the right to vote is implicitly acknowledged by the United States government  
23 and the people of the United States within the current zeitgeist.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
25 the members of this body urge the United States Congress to pass a constitutional  
26 amendment to establish voting as a right granted to all eligible United States citizens.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
28 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
29 public and the press.