

NEVADA GIRLS STATE
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Memorialized the 2019 session of the Nevada Legislature to enact legislation that will mandate all public high school students to complete a half-credit course focused on voting and civil engagement during their junior or senior year leading to graduation in order to encourage greater voter registration and turnout in Nevada elections at the city, county, state, and national levels.

WHEREAS, According to the Nevada Secretary of State website, voter turnout in Nevada has hardly increased by 2% over the past two Nevada state primary elections, despite state-wide efforts (such as Governor Sandoval's declaration of Nevada Voter Registration Week) to increase voter turnout; and

WHEREAS, Voting resources on the Nevada Secretary of State website lacks information to motivate young people, particularly first-time voters, to become politically educated and civically engaged in their local communities; and

WHEREAS, Students are not educated on the technicalities or the importance of voting as an act of civil engagement unless they intentionally seek out such educational programs and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, A lack of understanding on how to register for voting (early registration, absentee voting, etc.), research candidates, and support movements disempowers high school students as they struggle to play a role in their own governmental society; and

WHEREAS, Students demonstrating civil awareness and education in government and history-focused Advanced Placement or Honors classes could opt to take a Credit By Exam (CBE) for graduation instead of the full, half-credit course; and

WHEREAS, Education and encouragement of community engagement could improve Nevada in the ranks of college and career readiness; therefore be it

RESOLVED BY THE GIRLS STATE OF NEVADA, assembled in Carson City on June 29, 2018, that the 2019 Session of the Nevada Legislatures is hereby memorialized to enact legislation that will mandate all public high school students to complete a half-credit course focused on voting and civil engagement during their junior or senior year leading to graduation in order to encourage greater voter registration and turnout in Nevada elections at the city, county, state, and national levels.