

State of California

SECRETARY OF STATE

RELATIVE TO RECOGNIZING

2023 CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL VOTER EDUCATION WEEKS

WHEREAS, the California Secretary of State, who serves as the state's Chief Election Official, is committed to strengthening democracy by encouraging voter registration and increasing participation in all elections by all eligible Californians; and

WHEREAS, the youth of California play a critical role in our democracy by helping to choose the people who will lead us and by voicing their opinions on the issues that are important to them; and

WHEREAS, eligible 16- and 17-year-olds can pre-register to vote and then automatically become active voters once they turn 18; and

WHEREAS, high schools in California are encouraged to offer pre-registration and voter registration opportunities to eligible students by providing access to the state voter registration application online or by requesting physical voter registration cards for their schools; and

WHEREAS, high school administrators are also encouraged to select one or more students to serve as voter outreach coordinators to support student voter registration during High School Voter Education Weeks; and

WHEREAS, students are encouraged to participate in the democratic process through voter education programs, becoming an election worker, and by inviting peers, family members, and the community to register to vote and get involved in civic engagement activities; and

WHEREAS, with the recent passing of Senate Bill 955 (2022), students in grades 6 through 12 are now allowed to have one excused absence per year to participate in a civic or political event, provided the student notifies the school ahead of the absence; therefore, be it now

RESOLVED, that I, California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D., encourage all California High Schools to participate in **HIGH SCHOOL VOTER EDUCATION WEEKS**, April 17-28, 2023, and September 18-29, 2023.



Subscribed this 17th day of August 2023


Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.
California Secretary of State