

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2013 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR- -2013
Proposed by _____
Introduced by _____
Co-Sponsors _____
Date of Introduction _____

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Voting Rights

3 For the purpose of supporting an affirmative right to vote; restoring Section 4 of the Voting
4 Rights Act of 1965; supporting the full representation and voting rights of District of Columbia
5 residents in the House of Representatives and in the United States Senate; improving election
6 practices; increasing voter participation; and generally relating to voting.

7 WHEREAS, voter turnout in Prince George’s County was 68.19% of registered voters in
8 the 2012 Presidential Election and 47.57% of registered voters in the 2010 Gubernatorial
9 Election; and

10 WHEREAS, in the United States, less than 60% of eligible voters participated in the 2012
11 Presidential Election; and

12 WHEREAS, of the 119 nations that elect their public officials using democratic elections,
13 the United States is one of only 11 nations that does not have the right to vote in its Constitution;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the 15th, 19th, and 26th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution provide that the
16 right to vote shall not be denied or abridged based on race, sex, and age respectively, and the 24th
17 Amendment prohibits poll taxes. However, these amendments do not guarantee Americans an
18 explicit right to vote.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
20 County, Maryland, that the Council calls on Congress to propose an amendment to the U.S.
21 Constitution that would grant an individual right to vote to every American citizen of voting age;
22 and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that that the County Council calls on Congress to restore
24 Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 by creating a new coverage formula to determine
25 which states and local jurisdictions should have voting changes reviewed for potential
26 discriminatory impact; and

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council calls on Congress to give residents
2 of Washington, D.C. full representation and voting rights in the House of Representatives and in
3 the United States Senate; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council supports Maryland’s recent
5 expansion of early voting and the adoption of same-day voter registration.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2013.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Andrea C. Harrison
Chair

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

cd-134-cr-voting rights.2013