

Resolution Title: Resolution to Protect Voting Rights
Submitted by: Professional Staff Congress, Local 2334

Whereas, the health of our democracy depends on citizens' trusting that the elections process is fair and transparent; and

Whereas, partisan efforts by elections officials in Florida led to erroneous purging of eligible voters and differential treatment of military absentee ballots; and

Whereas, such efforts in Florida most certainly violated the rights of African Americans, senior citizens and other voters; and

Whereas, the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)* was passed to safeguard the enfranchisement of all eligible citizens and foster fair and efficient administrative practices by providing funding to states to reform elections processes; and

Whereas, HAVA obliges states to insure uniform treatment across the state, develop accurate statewide voter registration lists, protect against erroneous purges and protect every eligible voter's right to cast a ballot through provisional balloting; and

Whereas, the League of Women Voters is working in each state to monitor the implementation of HAVA to insure that voters' rights are protected; and

Whereas, Congress has not yet provided sufficient funding to implement HAVA reforms; therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) lobby Congress to appropriate the HAVA funding levels it approved (\$3.9 billion dollars) and increase HAVA funding in 2005 (an additional \$2 billion); and be it further

Resolved, that AFT oppose amendments to the HAVA of 2002 that lower state or federal obligations to implement election reform in a timely manner; and be it further

Resolved, that AFT inform and encourage locals to support the work of the League of Women Voters and other good government advocates to protect voters' rights, including encouraging members to work with the League to protect voting rights.

*www.Demos-USA.org (HAVA regulations)

I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved for submission to the 2004 AFT Convention by the:

Delegate Assembly at a meeting held on May 27, 2004

Signed: _____
(President)

(Secretary)

Professional Staff Congress
Local or Retiree Council Name

Local 2334
AFT#