

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING
20 RIGHTS OF FOREIGN-BORN ADOPTEES

30 WHEREAS: The right to run for President is such a powerful symbol and the denial of this
40 right could have a significant impact on foreign-born adoptees; and,

50 WHEREAS: All offices except the president of the United States are open to both natural
60 born and naturalized citizens; and,

70 WHEREAS: According to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, in fiscal year
80 1994, the number of orphans admitted to the United States was 8,200 and in
90 1995 this number increased 14.4 percent to 9,384; and,

100 WHEREAS: The average number of orphans admitted over 1994-95 was about 8,500
110 and this number tends to remain fairly constant each year meaning during any
120 generation of 25 years, there are about 212,000 citizens that do not have the
130 opportunity to hold the highest position in the United States; and,

140 WHEREAS: Restricting citizens from running for the office of president deprives voters of a
150 greater choice in their candidates.

160 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the
170 United States Congress to pass an amendment to the constitution reading: Any
180 foreign-born person who, while under the age of 18, is both legally adopted by
190 an American citizen or citizens and naturalized shall be eligible to the office of
200 President, once the person has attained the age of thirty-five years and been
210 fourteen years a resident within the United States.

220 MANDATES: President George W. Bush
230 Vice-president Dick Cheney
240 Speaker J. Dennis Hastert
250 House Majority Leader Richard Armey
260 House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt
270 Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott
280 Senate Majority Leader Thomas Daschle
290 Congressman Barney Frank

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