

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES EFFECTIVE DATE: NOVEMBER 2017 Source: <u>SBHE Policy Manual Section 308.3</u> DCB.309 REVIEWED: SEPTEMBER 2024

Policy

Federal and state law strictly limits the extent to which state entities may participate in political activities. As a result, DCB is not allowed to officially support or oppose the political campaign of any candidate for public office. In addition, DCB cannot participate in, intervene in, or otherwise attempt to influence any legislation or election. Similarly, DCB property is not to be used for any political purpose. In cases where legislation directly impacts DCB, the institution may take an official position and provide factual information. The purpose of this policy is to distinguish permissible civic engagement from impermissible institutional action. DCB supports employee rights to free speech and civic engagement. Faculty and staff members may engage in political expression without interference from DCB, so long as they remain compliant with federal and state law. When exercising these rights, off-duty employees must be clear that they speak only for themselves, and they do not represent the institution.