

**FORM B**

**The 2016 Essay Question Has  
Been Archived And Is  
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2015-2016 United States Senate Youth Scholarship  
Essay Prompt for North Carolina Candidates

**Essay Prompt:**

The adage "All politics is local" is known to have been coined by Washington AP bureau chief Byron Price in 1932. Tip O'Neill, who was the Democratic House Speaker, 1977-1987, first used the term back in 1935, when he was first entering politics and ran for a seat on the Cambridge, Massachusetts City Council in 1935, while he was still a student at Boston College. However, there are those who would argue that the past several decades have seen politics become increasingly nationalized. Prepare an essay addressing the question, *"What happens when the people of a constitutional democracy, such as the United States, only participate in national elections, forgetting or ignoring issues of local and state politics?"* Discuss the meaning of the adage "all politics is local". Use factual information, data, or examples to explain its application to both local and state politics of North Carolina. Explain how elections and voting influence 1) local and state politics, 2) national politics, and 3) the United States' world politics. Finally, keeping in mind the question, take a position arguing the sentiment of those who would say that politics is less local than it used to be. Explain your position and provide support for it. Based on your discussions and position draw a conclusion for what you think happens when the people only participate in national elections.

**Instructions:**

Write a well-developed essay that addresses this year's essay prompt.

**Your essay MUST:**

1. Be typed.
2. Be double spaced.
3. Have your name typed at the top of the first page.
4. Not exceed two pages. *A cover page and works cited page are not required. However, if you choose to provide them they will not be a part of the page count.*
5. Provide support/evidence that offers historical, contemporary and current examples when explaining your chosen evidence.
6. Cite your sources and documents used with American Psychological Association (APA) citations.

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## FORM B

Your essay will be judged based on the following:

### A COHERENT AND LOGICAL INTRODUCTION

- Background & History
- Supporting ideas and facts
- Thesis statement
- Logical explanations for ideas and thesis

### ORGANIZATION & ESSAY DETAILS AND SUPPORT

- Main Points
- Organization and structure of information
- How well the essay addresses the what has been asked for in the essay prompt
- How well arguments or information is presented
- Supporting evidence provided for any arguments or information presented
- How well the essay is detailed in the information and supporting evidence provided to support the thesis statement
- Examples used to highlight support are appropriate and make logical connection to whatever they are being used to illustrate
- Non-biased
- Personal conclusions are supported with data and factual information to back up your point of view or perspective

### STYLE

- Sentence flow
- Transitions
- Appropriate choice of words and how they are used

\*Helpful notes of caution to the candidates:

- Stay away from flowery writing and descriptions full of imagery.
- Focus on writing a well detailed paper based on research and facts to support your views.
- You are writing an argumentative essay which presents the interpretation of information and views in the form of a thesis (proposition, theory, view, idea) and reasons for that thesis.

### ACCURACY

- Information is correct and not based on opinion.
- Information is not value-laden.

### A STRONG CONCLUSION

- Your concluding thoughts make a clear connection back to the question or thesis based on the support and evidence of your essay

### MECHANICS

- Spelling
- Punctuation
- Capitalization
- Formatting

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1. The student's essay provided a definition or explanation of the meaning behind the adage "all politics is local".
2. The student's essay used information in the form of data or descriptive examples to explain how the adage "all politics is local" is applied to local politics in N.C.
3. The student's essay used information in the form of data or descriptive examples to explain how the adage "all politics is local" is applied to state politics in N.C.
4. The student's essay included information about how elections and voting influence 1) local and state politics
5. The student's essay included information about how elections and voting influence 2) national politics
6. The student's essay included information about how elections and voting influence 3) the United States' world politics.
7. The student's essay included a position for or against the political thoughts of some that in recent years politics has become less local than it used to be.
8. The student's essay provided support for the position they took.
9. The student's essay presented a conclusion for to sum up the entire paper on why the writer thinks happens when people only participate in national elections.

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