Essay Prompt	How easy should it be for Hoosiers to vote in a general election?
Essay Specifics	At times, there have been significant impediments to voting in the United States. In 1864, our nation was engaged in a civil war. In 2020, we are in the midst of a pandemic. Explain what was done in 1864 to make voting easier for the Union soldiers. Next, make an argument as to why or why not it is important in 2020 to make voting easier for our citizens. Support your idea with at least three pieces of evidence.
Standards	USH 1.1 - Read key documents from the Founding Era and analyze major ideas about government, individual rights, and the general welfare embedded in these documents. USH 9.4 - Reflect on the role of media and social media in the democratic process. USH 10.5 - Develop arguments, defended with historical evidence, which explain historical change.

	LH - 5.2 - Write informative texts, including analyses of historical events. USG 5.7 - Explain how citizens in the United States participate in public elections as voters and supporters of candidates for public office.
Resources	 Lincoln's letter to Sherman Article by Jonathan W. White Regiment Election Tally General Orders No. 265
Essay Details	 Contest runs from October 1, 2020 - January 11, 2021 with winners announced on February 12, 2021 1,000-1,500 words Any Indiana high school student is eligible. Prizes \$1000, \$500, and \$250.