

SENATE RESOLUTION  
8705

By Senators McAuliffe, Brandland, Oemig, Pridemore, Franklin, Prentice, Benton, Pflug, Weinstein, Zarelli, Eide, Keiser, Kohl-Welles, and Fraser

WHEREAS, Civic education is the foundation for an educated citizenry and a representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, In order to adequately prepare our state's youth for meaningful participation in our democratic institutions and processes, it is important to have strong educational resources aimed at teaching students and the public about the fragile nature of our Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Civic education is part of the fabric of our country and for all students in our public schools; and

WHEREAS, Civic education is a vital tool to promote greater understanding of the role of legislators in a representative democracy and the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Civic Education Day recognizes the value of civic education in Washington state; and

WHEREAS, Civic Education Day establishes a forum for civic educators across the state to collaborate with legislators and other supporters; and

WHEREAS, Many organizations such as the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, We the People Foundation, Washington Media Association, Washington State Council of Social Studies, 4-H, YMCA Youth & Government, Washington State Bar Association, Office of the Secretary of State, Service Learning of Washington, Washington State Historical Society, Legislative Scholars Program, World Affairs Council, League of Women Voters, the UW Center for Communication and Civic Engagement, and Project Citizen state winners from Touchet School are dedicated to making civic education a priority for Washington state and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The contributions of committed teachers, principals, community leaders, parents, state employees, and volunteers contribute to the goals of these laudable organizations to create an engaged citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gregoire is declaring February 20, 2008, as Washington State Civic Education Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate recognize the responsibility of civic educators across the state to serve and inform all Washingtonians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Washington hereby honor, thank, and celebrate the civic educators of the state.