

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2009-4611, by Representatives Upthegrove and Rolfes

WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature recognizes February 2, 2009, as Civic Education Day; and

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

WHEREAS, It is important to have strong educational resources aimed at teaching students and the public about government to encourage meaningful participation in our democratic institutions and processes; and

WHEREAS, The National Conference of State Legislatures partners with the Center for Civic Education to promote the Project Citizen Program; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Many organizations such as the Administrative Office of the Courts, Washington Association of Student Councils, Washington State Bar Association, Washington State Heritage Center, Women's History Consortium, Washington State Historical Society, the Legislative Scholars, League of Women Voters, Legislative Page School, Legislative Youth Advisory Council, Northwest Indian College, Office of the Secretary of State, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Project Citizen, TVW, We the People Foundation, and YMCA Youth & Government are dedicated to making civic education a priority for Washington State and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislative Internship Program is one organization that illustrates the commitment of the House of Representatives to civic education; and

WHEREAS, The 2009 House Intern Program includes twenty-nine students from many of Washington State's public and private institutions of higher learning, including Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, The Evergreen State College, Pacific Lutheran University, University of Washington, Washington State University, and Western Washington University; and

WHEREAS, Interns leave the Legislature prepared to participate in their communities, return to school as stronger students, and lead their lives as engaged citizens; and

WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the value of civic education and the importance of supporting civic education opportunities for our youth and the general public; and

WHEREAS, The House of Representatives celebrates Civic Education Day and recognizes the contributions of committed teachers, principals, community leaders, parents, state employees, interns, and volunteers as they help to create an engaged citizenry;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives honor, thank, and celebrate the civic educators of the state; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the civic education organizations participating in Civic Education Day and colleges and universities participating in the Washington State Legislative Internship Program.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4611 adopted by the House of Representatives
February 2, 2009

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk