

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24—SENATORS WIENER, AMODEI, BEERS, CARE, CARLTON, CEGAVSKE, COFFIN, HARDY, HECK, HORSFORD, LEE, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NOLAN, RAGGIO, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, TIFFANY, TITUS, TOWNSEND AND WASHINGTON

APRIL 27, 2005

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN PARNELL, ALLEN, ANDERSON, ANGLE, ARBERRY JR., ATKINSON, BUCKLEY, CARPENTER, CHRISTENSEN, CLABORN, CONKLIN, DENIS, GANSERT, GERHARDT, GIUNCHIGLIANI, GOICOECHEA, GRADY, HARDY, HETTRICK, HOGAN, HOLCOMB, HORNE, KIRKPATRICK, KOIVISTO, LESLIE, MABEY, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, MCCLEARY, MORTENSON, MUNFORD, OCEGUERA, OHRENSCHALL, PARKS, PERKINS, PIERCE, SEALE, SHERER, SIBLEY, SMITH AND WEBER

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Expresses support of Legislature for implementing standards for social studies curriculum offered in Nevada schools, particularly in area of civics and skills and values of citizenship. (BDR R-1090)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Expressing the support of the Legislature for implementing standards for the social studies curriculum that is offered in Nevada schools, particularly in the area of civics and the skills and values of citizenship.

- 1 WHEREAS, In 2003, the Nevada Legislature enacted legislation,
- 2 Senate Bill No. 309, chapter 387, Statutes of Nevada 2003, at page
- 3 2257, which established the Advisory Committee on Participatory
- 4 Democracy within the Office of the Secretary of State and required
- 5 the preparation of a report for the 73rd Session of the Legislature
- 6 evaluating efforts currently in progress to implement standards for



1 the social studies curriculum that is being offered in Nevada
2 schools, particularly in the area of civics and the skills and values of
3 citizenship; and

4 WHEREAS, A report has been filed with the 73rd Session of the
5 Legislature setting forth goals and a work plan for Nevada that
6 would enable school officials to better evaluate the efforts currently
7 in progress to implement standards for the social studies curriculum
8 that is offered in Nevada schools, particularly in the area of civics
9 and the skills and values of citizenship; and

10 WHEREAS, The Legislature finds that to ensure the health of
11 American democracy, every student in kindergarten through high
12 school, as well as in postsecondary school, needs to learn and
13 experience the fundamental ideas, principles and values on which
14 this nation was founded and to graduate ready for the
15 responsibilities of citizenship; and

16 WHEREAS, In the 2004 General Election, the county clerks and
17 registrars of voters in Nevada were confronted with record numbers
18 of voter registrations and a record voter turnout; and

19 WHEREAS, The Secretary of State and the Advisory Committee
20 for Participatory Democracy have achieved great strides in reaching
21 the goals outlined in Senate Bill No. 309 of the 2003 Legislative
22 Session and have established the first Jean Ford Democracy Award;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The Legislature urges every school district, with the
25 assistance of the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents of
26 the University of Nevada and any other educational officers
27 involved in reviewing and approving the social studies curriculum
28 used in this State to:

29 1. Provide all students with a high-quality, engaging and
30 rigorous civic learning experience;

31 2. Support the civic mission of schools with adequate resources
32 and trained teachers; and

33 3. Maintain standards for civic learning and the means to
34 assess students and schools in meeting them; and

35 WHEREAS, The Legislature desires to express its support for the
36 Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools, a project of the Council
37 for Excellence in Government and the Academy for Educational
38 Development funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and
39 the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which has awarded a
40 \$150,000, 2-year grant to the Nevada coalition to carry out state
41 advocacy and policy activities to implement the recommendations in
42 the report *Civic Mission of Schools*; now, therefore, be it

43 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
44 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the Legislature hereby declares that
45 it is committed to working with the Advisory Committee on



1 Participatory Democracy, the Department of Education, the State
2 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and
3 each local school district, with the advice and assistance of the
4 University and Community College System of Nevada and
5 the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada, in supporting the
6 goals and work plan as submitted pursuant to Senate Bill No. 309 of
7 the 2003 Legislative Session; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Legislature reaffirms its support for the
9 efforts of the Secretary of State and the Advisory Committee on
10 Participatory Democracy to reach the goals for voter registration and
11 voter participation set forth in that bill for the 2008 General
12 Election; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Advisory Committee on Participatory
14 Democracy, working with the Superintendent of Public Instruction
15 and representatives of other pertinent education organizations
16 interested in improving civic learning in Nevada, should meet
17 before the start of the 2007 Legislative Session to review the status
18 of the recommendations presented in this resolution; and be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That the Advisory Committee and Superintendent
21 shall make a full report to the 74th Session of the Nevada
22 Legislature on the achievement of the goals set forth in this
23 resolution; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Legislature hereby honors the first two
25 recipients of the Jean Ford Democracy Award, Larry Struve,
26 Outstanding Public Citizen, and Mark Peplowski, Outstanding
27 Educator, for exemplary service in promoting participatory
28 democracy in this State; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Legislature hereby declares April 27, 2005,
30 Democracy Day in the Nevada State Legislature; and be it further

31 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
32 transmit a copy of this resolution to Larry Struve, Mark Peplowski,
33 the President of the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of
34 Public Instruction, the Chairman of the Board of Regents of the
35 University of Nevada, the Secretary of State and the Advisory
36 Committee on Participatory Democracy.



