

**CHAPTER 90****(HJR 109)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating October as Civic Literacy and Engagement month in Kentucky.

WHEREAS, a fundamental tenet of American society is that the success and vitality of democratic government is directly dependent on the full and active participation of its citizens. A democratic society has a knowledgeable and well-informed electorate, full and open discussion of community issues, fair elections with maximum voter participation, and gracious acceptance of the will of the majority while maintaining the rights of the minority; and

WHEREAS, civic literacy encompasses knowledge and understanding of basic principles of government and community processes; and

WHEREAS, civic engagement refers to active participation in the life of the community through voting, volunteerism, and awareness of current community issues; and

WHEREAS, the need for civic literacy in our state is crucial to the long term social and political health of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Summit on Civic Literacy and Engagement held its inaugural assembly in October, 2004, and will continue to work on expanding civic literacy and engagement efforts throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State, along with the workgroup for the Kentucky Summit on Civic Literacy will continue to address what needs to be done in order to ensure that our youth have the necessary civic knowledge, civic skill, and civic attitudes to be engaged citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

Section 1. The month of October is designated as Civic Literacy and Engagement month in Kentucky.

Section 2. The Kentucky Secretary of State, the Department of Education, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and Northern Kentucky University's Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement are encouraged to publicize and promote the efforts of Kentucky public schools and groups to educate Kentucky students and citizens.

**Approved March 16, 2005.**