

A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Office of the Secretary of State to study civic education and engagement in the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, civic literacy and participation are critical components of an open and democratic society; and

WHEREAS, civic education produces informed and responsible citizens and public spirit; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson, Horace Mann, and John Dewey each emphasized the value of good citizenship and promoted the role of public education in teaching citizens the knowledge and skills necessary for responsible citizenship;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Office of the Secretary of State is directed to conduct a study of civic education and engagement in the Commonwealth. The Office of the Secretary of State is authorized to establish a Task Force on Civic Education and Engagement to accomplish this purpose.

➔Section 2. The study shall include the following tasks:

- (1) Analysis of the current state of civic education in the Commonwealth;
- (2) Analysis of current civic education initiatives and laws in other states, both mandated and permissive;
- (3) Identification of best practices in civic education; and
- (4) Recommendations to the General Assembly on methodologies and associated costs for substantially increasing:
  - (a) The civic literacy and the capacity of youth; and
  - (b) The requisite knowledge, skills, and practices necessary to be informed citizens.

➔Section 3. The Office of the Secretary of State shall submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation to the Legislative Research

Commission by December 1, 2015.