
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 209 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, LAVALLE, BOSCOLA, KASUNIC, FONTANA, FERLO,
MUSTO, KITCHEN, COSTA, ERICKSON, M. WHITE, REGOLA AND
RHOADES, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study the
2 scope and quality of citizenship education in this
3 Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, In 2006, a McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum survey
5 observed that Americans are more aware of their favorite
6 television show than what is happening in the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, The number of young people voting and the knowledge
8 of their civil rights is rapidly declining every year; and

9 WHEREAS, This is a concern for many states, including this
10 Commonwealth; and

11 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth needs to have a better
12 understanding of the civic education that our students are
13 receiving in school; and

14 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth needs to enhance young peoples'
15 knowledge of civics by engaging them in citizenship education
16 starting in elementary schools; and

17 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth needs to promote civic education
18 and engagement in civic activities in public, private and

1 parochial schools as provided under section 1605 of the Public
2 School Code of 1949; therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Joint State Government
4 Commission to conduct a study on the scope and quality of
5 citizenship education in this Commonwealth; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission study at
7 least all of the following:

8 (1) The number of young people that vote in this
9 Commonwealth.

10 (2) The types of civic education classes available in
11 schools and when they are available.

12 (3) If there is a need for civic education classes
13 earlier in public, private and parochial schools'
14 curriculums.

15 (4) If real life civics experiences are available in
16 private, public and parochial schools.

17 (5) If public awareness of representative democracy is
18 needed;

19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission study
21 the scope and quality of citizenship education, gathering
22 information from public, private and parochial schools,
23 colleges, teachers and the Department of Education; and be it
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission provide
26 the Senate with its funding and recommendations on how this
27 Commonwealth can increase citizenship education; and be it
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report
30 its findings and recommendations to the Senate no later than one

1 year after the adoption of this resolution.