

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Senate Passes Cardin, Grassley Resolution Supporting Civic Education

Resolution Calls for Increased Prioritization of Civic Education in American Public Schools

WASHINGTON — A bipartisan resolution sponsored by U.S. Senators Ben Cardin (D-Md.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) calls for increased prioritization of civic education in American public schools. [Senate Resolution 427](#) received the unanimous approval of the U.S. Senate on April 29.

The Cardin-Grassley resolution encourages elementary and secondary schools to adopt programs and curricula that have demonstrated effectiveness in fostering civic competence, civic responsibility, and a reasoned commitment to the fundamental values and principles underlying the constitutional government of the United States. The resolution also calls for all teachers of civics and government to have access to adequate opportunities to enrich teaching through professional development programs to enrich their teaching capacity.

“The Center lauds the U.S. Senate for recognizing the importance of effective civic education and teacher professional development,” said Charles N. Quigley, the Center for Civic Education’s executive director.

“Each generation must work to preserve the fundamental values and principles of its heritage. This requires a full-scale national investment from every level of government and every sector of society to ensure that our citizens understand their government and participate fully in it.”

The Senate’s unanimous approval of Senate Resolution 427 occurred on the day after the Center’s 27th [We the People National Finals](#), a competition that drew more than 1,200 students from 42 states to George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, where they testified before panels of expert judges on the fundamental principles of the U.S. Constitution and American government.

Since its inception in 1987 as part of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, the [We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution](#) program has reached more than 30 million students and 75,000 educators in every congressional district in the United States.

We the People promotes knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and American government through interactive strategies that make teaching and learning exciting for both students and teachers.

About the Center for Civic Education

The *Center for Civic Education* (www.civiced.org) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization dedicated to fostering the development of informed, responsible participation in civic life by citizens committed to values and principles fundamental to American constitutional democracy. The Center's programs are implemented with the assistance of a network of public- and private-sector organizations and educational leaders in every state and congressional district in the country and in more than eighty other countries, many of which are emerging and advanced democracies.

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