



FIRST AMENDMENT PETITION FOR REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES

Relating to Violations of the United States Constitution PUBLIC EDUCATION

WE THE FREE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, *by and through the unalienable, individual Rights guaranteed by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution for the United States of America, hereby Petition the Governor and each member of the Legislature of each State of the Union for Redress of our Grievances, to honor their Oaths or Affirmations of office and their constitutional obligations by responding to this Petition within forty (40) days, providing a formal acknowledgement of its receipt with a rebuttal of its legal arguments and statement of facts, or demonstrating a good faith effort to comply with its remedial instructions.*

WHEREAS, by the terms and conditions of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution for the United States of America, We the People have expressly established a republican form of government, empowering it to act in only certain ways, while purposely and patently restricting and prohibiting it from acting in certain other ways without Amendment, and;

WHEREAS, We the People are entitled, by Right, to a constitutionally valid system of public education, which prepares each citizen to meet the obligations of citizenship in America, to understand America's constitutional form of governance and each one's own unalienable Rights and the responsibility to preserve and protect the blessings of individual liberty for future generations, and;

WHEREAS, the absence of civic education has had a devastating, adverse impact on America's economy and is contributing to the pauperization of Her People, and;

WHEREAS, the current system of public education violates the principle of the "frequent recurrence to fundamental principles" that emerges from our State Constitutions and from the Declaration of Independence and Constitution for the United States of America, and;

WHEREAS, each State Constitution and the First and Ninth Amendments to the federal Bill of Rights guarantee to every American the unalienable Right to hold the government accountable to each and every principle, prohibition, restriction and mandate of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution for the United States of America,

NOW THEREFORE:

WE THE PEOPLE *do hereby seek the following Remedies and Instruct the Governor and members of the Legislature of each State to respond to this Petition as follows:*

Within forty (40) days following the service of this First Amendment Petition for Redress, The Legislature of each State, in the exercise of its power authorized by the related Article of its State Constitution, shall enact a statute to read as follows:

"An Act for Civic Education"

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

We the People of the State of _____, in order to reaffirm our commitment to the principles of government set forth in America's founding documents, The Declaration of Independence, The Constitution of The United States of America, and the Constitution of the State of _____, do hereby enact this Statute for Civic Education.

By this Statute, we acknowledge and hold that all government power derives from the consent of We The People, and we do further acknowledge and accept our eternal duty to protect, preserve and defend the enduring principles of Equality, Justice and Liberty upon which our Nation and our state were conceived.

We do herein establish a legislative mandate to ensure that every child educated in the State of _____ receives competent and thorough instruction in the founding documents of America and in our State Constitution. It is our firm intention that all children educated in this state understand America's constitutional form of government and appreciate their unalienable rights and responsibilities to preserve the blessings of individual liberty for future generations.

We thus affirm the following provisions of the Statute for Civic Education:

1. COURSES OF INSTRUCTION IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS AND CITIZENSHIP

a. In order to achieve a certain level of consciousness and understanding among all citizens of America regarding the country in which they abide, its system of governance and those Principles which are Fundamental to America's Reason for Being; to promote a spirit of civic service; and to foster in the children of this state moral and intellectual qualities which are essential in preparing them to meet the obligations of citizenship in peace or in war, the Board of Regents or the equivalent administrative agency of the State of _____ shall prescribe courses of instruction in citizenship and the origin and purpose of the historic founding

documents of our country and state to be maintained and followed in all the schools of the state, and;

b. All Boards of Education, trustees, elected and appointed leadership of every education district of this state, shall require instruction to be given in such courses by the teachers employed in the schools therein. All students eight years of age or older, and/or in the third grade or higher attending the public schools of this state shall be required to receive such instruction. The period of such instruction will commence in grade three and continue each year through grade twelve, and;

c. Similar courses of instruction shall be prescribed and maintained in the private schools of this state, and all students eight years of age or older, and/or in the third grade or higher attending such private schools shall be required to receive such instruction, and;

d. The Board of Regents or its equivalent administrative agency, shall prescribe courses of instruction in the history, original meaning, significance and effect of the provisions of the Constitution for the United States of America, the amendments thereto, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the State of _____ and the amendments thereto, to be maintained and followed in all of the schools of the state. All Boards of Education, trustees, elected and appointed leadership of every education district of this state shall require compliance with the provisions of this Act, and ensure that measures are instituted to establish uniform standards for relevant instruction in all public and private schools, in each grade three through twelve, and;

e. The Board of Regents or its equivalent administrative agency, shall determine the subjects to be included in such courses of instruction in citizenship, and in the history, original meaning, significance and effect of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States of America, the amendments thereto, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the State of _____ and the amendments thereto, and the extent and schedule of such instruction at each grade level. They shall adopt rules providing for attendance upon such instruction and for such other matters as are required for carrying into effect the objects and purposes of this section. The State Commissioner or Secretary of Education shall be responsible for the enforcement of such section and shall ensure that all classroom instruction and related program materials meet the highest quality standards for educational professionalism and historical accuracy, and;

f. The State Commissioner or Secretary of Education may, in his/her discretion, cause all or a portion of the public education funds designated or apportioned for any education district to be withheld for failure of the school authorities of such district to provide instruction in such courses and to require attendance upon such instruction, as herein prescribed, or for noncompliance with the requirements of this Act as herein adopted, and;

g. The Board of Regents or its equivalent administrative agency, shall designate one week during each school year from grades three through twelve inclusive, and prescribe for that year a uniform course of instruction in Civic Education to be administered in every public school of the

state. Such instruction shall be suitable for students of various ages, and designed to teach the young people of this country and state the purpose, meaning and importance of the Constitution of the United States of America, the amendments thereto including the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the State of _____, and amendments thereto. Such instruction shall be in addition to any prescribed courses of related study in the schools, and;

2. INSTRUCTION IN CIVILITY, CITIZENSHIP AND PERSONAL CHARACTER

The Board of Regents or its equivalent administrative agency shall ensure that the course of instruction in grades kindergarten through twelve also includes a component on civility, citizenship and personal character. Such component shall instruct students on the principles of honesty, tolerance, personal responsibility, respect for others, observance of laws and rules, courtesy, dignity and other traits which will enhance the quality of their experiences in, and contributions to, the community. The Board of Regents or its equivalent administrative agency will determine how to incorporate such component of instruction into existing curricula and the Commissioner or Secretary shall promulgate any regulations needed to carry out such determination of the administrative agency, and;

3. INSTRUCTION RELATING TO THE FLAG, THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

a. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner or Secretary of Education to prepare, for the use of the public schools of the state, a program providing for honoring the Flag and a daily Pledge of Allegiance to the Constitution and the Republic for which it stands. Instruction in the correct use and display of the flag shall include, as a minimum, specific instruction regarding respect for the flag of the United States of America, its use and display as provided by federal statute and regulation. Such instruction shall include, as a minimum, the provisions of sections one hundred seventy through one hundred seventy-seven of title thirty-six of the United States Code, and;

b. It also shall be the duty of the Commissioner or Secretary of Education to make special provision for the observance in the public schools of the Fourth of July, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day and Flag Day, and such other legal holidays of like character as may be hereafter designated by law when the legislature makes such an appropriation.

The Governor shall cooperate with and assist the State Legislature in the adoption of the statute above.

Respectfully submitted this _____ day of _____, 20__ by:

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>
