Nick Licata
Seattle City Councilmember

2014 March 12

Dear King County Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my support for King County Council Motion 2014-0068, sponsored by Councilmember Phillips, which declares the County Council's support for the Civics for All Initiative.

The Civics for All Initiative advocates for more civics education in the classroom, which I consider crucial to empowering new generations to become active, critical thinkers in our democracy.

Integrating more civics studies into school curricula, along with other critical school subject matter, makes it much more likely youth will practice the duties and reap the rewards of active citizenship and participation in their government.

I particularly appreciate the County Motion's recognition of efforts by the King County Department of Elections to encourage civic engagement among Seattle youth by supporting mock elections in schools. These mock elections teach youth about the elections process and how to vote, the essential tools required to fully participate in our democracy.

I am sponsoring a similar resolution on behalf of the Seattle City Council, Resolution 31508, which is to be heard in my Committee on March 14th and voted on by the full Council on March 17th.

Together, through this legislation, the City and the County send a unified message on the value of introducing more civics education in the classroom.

Sincerely,

Nick Licata, Chair
Seattle City Council Finance and Culture Committee

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