

**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**RESOLUTION 31508**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CIVICS FOR ALL INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, A basic understanding of the rights and duties of citizenship are essential to sustaining democracy and civic life, both nationally and in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, A national and local "civics gap" has formed and is in danger of disenfranchising our city's minority and at-risk students, especially those in low-income elementary schools where civics instruction is scarce; and

WHEREAS, This "civics gap" follows students from their K-12 years into voting-age adulthood, where in 2010 merely 21 percent of 18 to 29 year-olds voted in federal elections and far fewer voted in local elections; and

WHEREAS, By recognizing civics education curricula in Seattle's classrooms, the City's multi-year Families and Education Levy can enhance the value of its critical investments in educating our youth; and

WHEREAS, The Civics for All Initiative has been vetted by experts from the University of Washington, Seattle University, Stanford University, and the Center for Civics Education; and

WHEREAS, The Seattle City Council desires that all Seattle educators develop and facilitate a quality civics education program for their students;

NOW, THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE THAT:**

Section 1. The City Council approves of and endorses the Civics for All Initiative for its potential to enhance academic achievement, civic knowledge and engagement for nearly fifty thousand K-12 students in the Seattle school district by motivating and empowering students with lessons that help them receive information in civic, ethical and political frameworks in all academic disciplines.

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Section 2. The City Council commends the King County Department of Elections for its interest in the Civics for All Initiative and commitment to partner with the Initiative and other election partners and resources, including the Secretary of State's Office in Olympia, to support mock elections in public schools, which can teach children about the elections process and how to vote, thus promoting civic participation in order to increase citizenship involvement and aptitude for life.

Adopted by the City Council the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

THE MAYOR CONCURRING:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

**FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Contact Person/Phone:</b>	<b>CBO Analyst/Phone:</b>
Legislative	Frank Video/684-8849	Gregory Shiring/386-4085

**Legislation Title:** A Resolution in support of the Civics For All Initiative.

**Summary of the Legislation:** Declares the City Council’s support of the Civics for All Initiative, which promotes civics education in Seattle Public Schools.

**Background:** Seattle public school instructor Web Hutchins founded the Civics for All Initiative, which seeks to make Seattle a model civics education city where a “civic culture of learning” is cultivated and democratic principles are celebrated in K-12 schools and district-wide. One of its central programs calls for city-wide mock elections, in which 50,000 students participate in and learn about our democracy’s voting process. The Civics for All Initiative was featured in the April 2012 edition of Educational Leadership magazine and is supported by legislators at the County and State level as well as professors from Seattle University, the University of Washington, and Stanford University.

Please check one of the following:

**This legislation does not have any financial implications.**

**This legislation has financial implications.**

**Appropriations:**

<b>Fund Name and Number</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Budget Control Level*</b>	<b>2013 Appropriation</b>	<b>2014 Anticipated Appropriation</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>				

*\*See budget book to obtain the appropriate Budget Control Level for your department.*

Appropriations Notes:

**Anticipated Revenue/Reimbursement Resulting from this Legislation:**

Fund Name and Number	Department	Revenue Source	2013 Revenue	2014 Revenue
<b>TOTAL</b>				

Revenue/Reimbursement Notes:

**Total Regular Positions Created, Modified, or Abrogated through this Legislation, Including FTE Impact:**

Position Title and Department	Position # for Existing Positions	Fund Name & #	PT/FT	2013 Positions	2013 FTE	2014 Positions*	2014 FTE*
<b>TOTAL</b>							

*\* 2014 positions and FTE are total 2014 position changes resulting from this legislation, not incremental changes. Therefore, under 2014, please be sure to include any continuing positions from 2013.*

Position Notes:

**Do positions sunset in the future?**

**Spending/Cash Flow:**

Fund Name & #	Department	Budget Control Level*	2013 Expenditures	2014 Anticipated Expenditures
<b>TOTAL</b>				

*\* See budget book to obtain the appropriate Budget Control Level for your department.*

Spending/Cash Flow Notes:

**Other Implications:**

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**  
No.
- b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?** None.
- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?** No.
- d) **What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?** N.A.
- e) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?** No.
- f) **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?** No.
- g) **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?** No.
- h) **Other Issues:** N.A.

**List attachments to the fiscal note below:** None