

Submitter: Alyson Battistel  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HCR18

For a long time, I was content to teach about civics without directly participating. I immigrated to the United States at the age of nine and obtained permanent residency around a decade later. Over the years, I grappled with the rights and responsibilities I had as a resident along with the tenuous nature of democracy. Robust discussions and analysis via the History Book Club and the annual Civics Conference factored into my decision to obtain U.S. citizenship. This past November was my first vote ever. It was a very emotional experience, and I shared my journey with my students as we worked our way through a mock election. I support the recognition and commendation of the Classroom Law Project as it has provided the most consistent and thoughtful professional development over my 15 years as an educator. And soon, I will celebrate my first Independence Day as a citizen! Thank you.