

Submitter: Jeremy Sarant
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HCR18

I am writing today in support of the passage of HCR 18. Civics education is fundamentally important to our democracy, and Classroom Law Project has been an integral part of providing engaging and experiential programs for 40 years.

I have coached in the high school We the People constitutional law competition for eighteen years, and in the high school Mock Trial competition for seven years. Both of these wonderful programs operate under the supervision of, and with support from, Classroom Law Project. Through these programs, thousands of students have gained a clear understanding of how democracy and the judicial system are supposed to work in the United States, as well as understanding some of the challenges facing representative democracy and our judicial system. The students have learned to work together to achieve team success, and they have learned individual presentation skills, as they answer questions posed by expert judges, and present arguments and testimony in a trial setting. In short, they have become better citizens of Oregon and the nation. None of this would be possible without the steady support from Classroom Law Project, and I am happy to see this support recognized by HCR 18.