

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 13

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2002 Regular Session  
2r1917

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By: **Senators Haines, Astle, Baker, Blount, Bromwell, Colburn, Collins,  
DeGrange, Della, Dyson, Ferguson, Forehand, Green, Hafer, Harris,  
Hogan, Hollinger, Hooper, Jacobs, Kelley, Kittleman, Middleton, Miller,  
Mooney, Munson, Neall, Roesser, Schrader, Sfikas, Stoltzfus, and Stone**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002  
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 19, 2002

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RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Public Schools - Character Education Program**

3 FOR the purpose of urging each county board of education to develop a character  
4 education program to be taught in its schools that includes discussion of certain  
5 character traits; and generally relating to a character education program in  
6 public schools.

7 WHEREAS, Teaching students civic virtues and the importance of good  
8 character improves a school's learning environment, promotes student achievement,  
9 reduces disciplinary problems, and develops civic-minded students of high character;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, A character education program developed in cooperation with each  
12 county board of education, individual schools, students, parents, and the community  
13 may be more effective and accepted; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That each  
15 county board of education is strongly encouraged to develop a character education  
16 program in its schools that includes discussion of the following character traits:

17 (1) Trustworthiness, including honesty, integrity, reliability, and loyalty;

18 (2) Respect, including tolerance, courtesy, and the principles of the Golden  
19 Rule;

20 (3) Responsibility, including hard work, economic self-reliance, accountability,  
21 diligence, perseverance, and self-control;

1 (4) Fairness, including justice, consequences of bad behavior, principles of  
2 nondiscrimination, and freedom from prejudice;

3 (5) Caring, including kindness, empathy, compassion, consideration,  
4 generosity, and charity; and

5 (6) Citizenship, including patriotism, the pledge of allegiance, respect for the  
6 American flag, concern for the common good, respect for authority and the law, and  
7 community-mindedness; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
9 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;  
10 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and  
11 the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.