



**SB0008/HB0072**

Education – Maryland Civic Excellence Program – Established

Whereas 9 states have already effectively integrated a civic seals or engagement program into their school systems; and

Whereas, students who experience high-quality civic education are more likely to: complete college, vote, be confident in speaking publicly and communicating with elected representatives, and volunteer and work on community issues<sup>1</sup>; and

Whereas youth civic engagement can lead to increased academic performance and improved social-emotional well-being<sup>2</sup>; and

Whereas this program encourages student participation in government; and

Whereas students will be encouraged to get involved in their school and community; and

Whereas this bill promotes youth literacy in the legislative process; and

Whereas HCRASC supports “Promoting school-based programs and curriculum that encourage civic engagement and participation” (HCRASC Platform Education)

Be it therefore further resolved, HCRASC supports SB0008/HB0072

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<sup>1</sup>“What Is Civics.” *iCivics*, <https://vision.icivics.org/why-civics/>.

<sup>2</sup>“Why Is Youth Civic Engagement Important?” *CIRCLE*, <https://circle.tufts.edu/understanding-youth-civic-engagement/why-it-important>

**Resolution: 24/25- Authored by Gabrielle Moore Brooks, HCRASC Student Legislative Affairs Coordinator**

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