



CLINT P. MOSES

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 29TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Office: (608) 266-7683
Toll Free: (888) 529-0029
Rep.Moses@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

For Immediate Release
September 29, 2021

Contact: Rep. Clint Moses
(608) 266-7683

Civics Education Bill Passes Assembly

Madison... K-12 schools could be required to incorporate civics education in school thanks to a bill passed by the Wisconsin State Assembly. The legislation will require the teaching of shared rights and responsibilities as citizens of the U.S., how to engage in government, and the history and content of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights.

In a survey conducted by the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, 51 percent of Americans could name all three branches of government. In addition, only 24 percent of 8th graders were at or above proficiency in civics according to the 2018 National Assessment of Educational Progress.

“We are facing a civics education crisis in our state,” Rep. Moses said. “Teaching our students about their civic duties will encourage them to be a contributing members in their communities.”

Wisconsin received an “F” in both civics and U.S. History in the Fordham Institute’s 2021 report on the State of State Standards. The report criticized Wisconsin’s lack of guidance that the state’s standards provide for educators.

Under current law, three credits of social studies are required for high school graduation. This bill would require 0.5 of those three credits to be in civics. The bill also includes having a comparative discussion of other nations’ governing philosophies, including communism, socialism, and totalitarianism, and how these compare with the principles of the freedom and representative democracy that the U.S. was founded on.

“We need to emphasize civics education in schools to motivate critical thinking and political conversations,” said Rep. Moses. “Civics education is essential for citizens to understand their responsibilities and participate in the government.”

The Assembly bill now heads to the state Senate for consideration.

###

The 29th Assembly District includes portions of Dunn and St. Croix Counties including the communities of Baldwin, Boyceville, Glenwood City, Menomonie, New Richmond, and Woodville.