

HOUSE BILL 944

By Lamberth

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 6, Part 10, relative to the Governor's
Civics Seal.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) There is established a Governor's Civics Seal to recognize public schools and local education agencies implementing high-quality civic education programs that prepare students for career and civic life.

(b) The department of education shall identify on the state report card:

(1) Each school earning the Governor's Civics Seal; and

(2) Each local education agency in which at least eighty percent (80%) of the LEA's schools earn the Governor's Civics Seal.

(c) The department of education shall develop, and the state board of education shall adopt, criteria that a school must meet to earn the Governor's Civics Seal. The criteria must require:

(1) The school to incorporate civic learning across a broad range of grades and academic subjects that build on the Tennessee academic standards;

(2) In accordance with § 49-6-1028, the school to provide instruction regarding our nation's democratic principles and practices, the significant events and individuals responsible for the creation of our foundational documents, and the formation of the governments of the United States and the state of Tennessee using the federal and state foundational documents;

(3) The school to provide professional development opportunities or student resources that facilitate civics education;

(4) The school to provide opportunities for students to engage in real-world learning activities, such as a mock election;

(5) The school to have fully implemented a high-quality, project-based assessment in accordance with § 49-6-1028(e), if applicable; and

(6) The school to be recognized as a civics all-star school in accordance with § 49-6-408, if applicable.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.