



Education Commission
of the States

November 10, 2003

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To Members of the Michigan House of Representatives:

I have been very pleased with the efforts of the Michigan House Civics Commission to advance youth civic engagement. As you may know, our work at the Education Commission of the States (ECS) National Center for Learning and Citizenship (NCLC) is to advance the civic mission of education. We believe the Michigan House Civics Commission provides high-quality opportunities for schools to assist young people to acquire, enhance and practice the skills of active principled citizenship.

The Michigan House Civics Commission will help to reverse the national and local feeling youth have toward government, policymaking and politics (demonstrated by many national studies identifying the “disconnect” young Americans have with their government) by *hosting public hearings at K-12 schools, engaging young people in legislative research, providing semi-monthly legislative updates and web-based information and resources* for Michigan’s youth.

As we identify state policy and program options for our constituents (state policymakers and education leaders), we believe the Michigan House Civics Commission is an excellent effort for other states to consider, adopt and/or adapt.

We look forward to their success and sharing their contributions with others.

Sincerely,

Terry Pickeral
Executive Director
National Center for Learning and Citizenship

HELPING STATE LEADERS SHAPE EDUCATION POLICY

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