CivXNow Coalition is leading a bipartisan, nationwide movement to improve policies and promote research-based, results-driven practices in civic education. In order to flourish in its third century and beyond, our nation must revisit and recommit to the principle that high quality universal civics education is fundamental to our democracy.

Students who experience high quality civic education are:

- More likely to vote and discuss politics at home.
- More likely to complete college and develop employable skills.
- Four times more likely to volunteer and work on community issues.
- More confident in their ability to speak publicly and communicate with their elected representatives.

The current state of education falls short.

Civic education by the numbers...

- ONLY 9 STATES require a full year of civic education in high school.
- 10 STATES don’t require it at all.
- NEARLY 75% of Americans cannot name all three branches of government.
- FEWER THAN 1 IN 4 students reach a “proficient” score in civics on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).
- ONLY 8 STATES have a stand-alone assessment in civics.*

*does not include the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Civics Test as an assessment.
It is my great hope that our nation will commit to educating our youth about civics, and to helping young people understand their crucial role as informed, active citizens in our nation. To achieve this, I hope that private citizens, counties, states, and the federal government will work together to create and fund a nationwide civics education initiative. Many wonderful people already are working towards this goal, but they need real help and public commitment.

Sandra Day O’Connor
Retired Supreme Court Justice
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