

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 128

Designating March 2000, as “Arts Education Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 30, 1999

Mr. COCHRAN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating March 2000, as “Arts Education Month”.

Whereas arts literacy is a fundamental purpose of schooling
for all students;

Whereas arts education stimulates, develops and refines many
cognitive and creative skills, critical thinking and
nimbleness in judgment, creativity and imagination, coop-
erative decisionmaking, leadership, high-level literacy and
communication, and the capacity for problem posing and
problem-solving;

Whereas arts education contributes significantly to the cre-
ation of flexible, adaptable, and knowledgeable workers
who will be needed in the 21st century economy;

Whereas arts education improves teaching and learning;

Whereas when parents and families, artists, arts organiza-
tions, businesses, local civic and cultural leaders, and in-

stitutions are actively engaged in instructional programs, arts education is more successful;

Whereas effective teachers of the arts should be encouraged to continue to learn and grow in mastery of their art form as well as in their teaching competence;

Whereas the 1999 study, entitled “Gaining the Arts Advantage: Lessons from School Districts that Value Arts Education”, found that the literacy, education, programs, learning and growth described in the preceding clauses contribute to successful districtwide arts education;

Whereas the 1997 National Assessment of Educational Progress reported that students lack sufficient opportunity for participatory learning in the arts;

Whereas educators, schools, students, and other community members recognize the importance of arts education; and

Whereas arts programs, arts curriculum, and other arts activities in schools across the Nation should be encouraged and publicly recognized: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF ARTS EDUCATION MONTH.**

3 The Senate—

4 (1) designates March 2000, as “Arts Education
5 Month”; and

6 (2) encourages schools, students, educators,
7 parents, and other community members to engage in
8 activities designed to—

9 (A) celebrate the positive impact and pub-
10 lic benefits of the arts;

1 (B) encourage all schools to integrate the
2 arts into the school curriculum;

3 (C) spotlight the relationship between the
4 arts and student learning;

5 (D) demonstrate how community involve-
6 ment in the creation and implementation of arts
7 policies enriches schools;

8 (E) recognize school administrators and
9 faculty who provide quality arts education to
10 students;

11 (F) provide professional development op-
12 portunities in the arts for teachers;

13 (G) create opportunities for students to ex-
14 perience the relationship between participation
15 in the arts and developing the life skills nec-
16 essary for future personal and professional suc-
17 cess;

18 (H) increase, encourage, and ensure com-
19 prehensive, sequential arts learning for all stu-
20 dents;

21 (I) honor individual, class, and student
22 group achievement in the arts; and

23 (J) increase awareness and accessibility to
24 live performances, and original works of art.

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