

3.

PROPOSED POLICY POSITION

ENCOURAGING STUDENTS' INCREASED KNOWLEDGE
OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Background

The Southern Legislative Conference shares the concern of those who see a deterioration in the understanding our secondary students have of the principles of American government. If, as recent evidence would indicate, such a condition is allowed to continue, a serious erosion in citizenship and a depreciation of our democratic ideals could ensue.

Recommendation

In recognition of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, the Southern Legislative Conference supports the concept and sentiments expressed by the Congress in Senate Concurrent Resolution 92 to encourage state and local governments and local education agencies to include among the requirements for secondary school graduation a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution and the Federalist Papers.

Adopted by the Southern Legislative Conference Education Committee,
August 22, 1988
(Sponsor: Representative Kent Grusendorf, Texas, Member, Education
Committee)

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