

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WOLFIN.

2179H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

Relating to the Seal of Civic Recognition award.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

1       **WHEREAS**, the state of Missouri recognizes the core importance of education  
2 focused on patriotism, ethics, morality, and civics; and

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4       **WHEREAS**, the state celebrates commitment on a local, state, and national level on  
5 the part of our state's graduating seniors; and

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7       **WHEREAS**, the state desires to support such education and graduating seniors by  
8 awarding a "State of Missouri Seal of Civic Recognition" to each senior who graduates from a  
9 public school, private school, parochial school, or home school and who meets the specific  
10 criteria for various levels of the Seal of Civic Recognition; and

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12       **WHEREAS**, the state hopes and expects that such award will garner recognition of  
13 such student's efforts in the form of scholarships, financial assistance, internships,  
14 apprenticeships, and other similar awards to aid such student's pursuit of future education  
15 and vocational or professional career opportunities; and

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17       **WHEREAS**, to further support the state's matriculating students' embrace of a strong  
18 ethical civic education, the state exhorts nominating entities and individuals to assist  
19 recipients of a Seal of Civic Recognition in efforts to further vocational or professional  
20 preparedness; and

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22           **WHEREAS**, the state of Missouri desires to commend a commitment to our beautiful  
23 state and this nation through service in the Armed Forces of the United States, with the full  
24 and joyous expectation that, after such student's term of service to this state and our nation,  
25 the student will be heartily welcomed home with open arms by a grateful citizenry:

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27           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
28 Representatives of the One Hundred Third General Assembly, First Regular Session, the  
29 Senate concurring therein, hereby create the "State of Missouri Seal of Civic Recognition"  
30 program; and

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32           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that nominations for consideration for a Seal of  
33 Civic Recognition may be filed:

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35           (1) By civic or veteran organizations, businesses, or interested individuals;

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37           (2) At any time after a student's progression from grade six upward in participating  
38 public schools, private schools, parochial schools, or homeschools;

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40           (3) Before such student's graduation from grade twelve in a participating school; and

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42           (4) By the nominating entity's or individual's submission of documentation that the  
43 student qualifies for a Seal of Civic Recognition under the program; and

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45           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a graduating senior shall be eligible for a  
46 designated level of the Seal of Civic Recognition if such senior accomplishes the following:

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48           (1) Complete at least two, four, or six school years of documented combined academic  
49 instruction in functional moral and ethical local, state, and national governance, national and  
50 world history, or related curricula;

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52           (2) Engage in active participation in school governance and community civic  
53 engagement through civic, veteran, and other community organizations;

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55           (3) Participate in mentorship programming offered by local, state, and other  
56 government officials and civil servants;

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58 (4) Participate in a school-, community-, or church-sponsored "Seal of Civic  
59 Recognition Club" focused on reinforcing and building on such educational instruction and  
60 participatory activities; and

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62 (5) Make a formal commitment to, upon graduation, participate for at least one year in  
63 some form of community or national civic or military service; and

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65 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a graduating senior who accomplishes the  
66 requirements to be eligible for a Seal of Civic Recognition shall be awarded such Seal in the  
67 following designations:

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69 (1) For completing at least two but fewer than four school years of the required  
70 instruction, a Bronze Seal of Civic Recognition;

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72 (2) For completing at least four but fewer than six school years of the required  
73 instruction, a Silver Seal of Civic Recognition; and

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75 (3) For completing at least six school years of the required instruction, a Gold Seal of  
76 Civic Recognition; and

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78 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a Seal of Civic Recognition will accompany  
79 such student's high school diploma; and

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81 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the state encourages entities that nominated a  
82 student who receives a Seal of Civic Recognition to provide some level of agreed-upon and  
83 stipulated support for such student's future vocational or professional preparedness after the  
84 student's matriculation, which support may be in the form of direct scholarship assistance,  
85 mentoring, accommodations, apprenticeships, internships, or other similar incentives to aid  
86 such student's progress toward professional or vocational advancement; and

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88 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a student who is a recipient of a Seal of Civic  
89 Recognition and who commits to serve our nation in military service directly or through  
90 enlistment in a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program will receive a "Letter of  
91 Congratulations, Commendation, and State Gratitude" signed by the Governor, the Speaker of  
92 the House of Representatives, and the Lieutenant Governor of the state of Missouri; and

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94           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his  
95 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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