



We the People THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION

Directed by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act approved by the United States Congress.

For Immediate Release
Date

Contact: Name
Telephone Number

STUDENTS VIE FOR STATE TITLE IN COMPETITION ON CONSTITUTION

WHAT: [Number] high schools from throughout [state name] will test their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights during the annual **We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution** state competition.
(See attached sheet for participating high school.)

WHEN: **Date/Time**

WHERE: **Location**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS: Classes of students have prepared for months for their role as experts testifying on selected constitutional issues. They will demonstrate their knowledge before a simulated congressional committee consisting of constitutional scholars, lawyers, and government leaders who will judge the students' performances. Judges of this year's competition include: [list notable judges]

To reach the state finals, classes had to first win their [district/regional] level competitions. The state champion will advance to the **We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution** National Finals, May 3–5, 2008, in Washington, D.C.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: The **We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution** program, nationally implemented in upper elementary, middle, and high schools, has reached more than 28 million students and 90,000 teachers since its inception in 1987. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education for Democracy Act approved by Congress and directed by the Center for Civic Education.

Independent research shows that high school students who participated in the **We the People** program scored significantly higher on a test of political knowledge than their peers. **We the People** classes scored 30 percent higher than matched comparison government classes on a comprehensive test that measured understanding of core values and principles of democracy, constitutional limits on governmental institutions, and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.