

Dear House Education Committee,

Under the House proposal, the first alternative for meeting the "civics" requirement for high school graduation in Vermont is to pass the Civics (History and Government) test administered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service to all those who wish to become naturalized U.S. citizens.

I feel this is an excellent idea because:

First, knowing the answers to the 100 questions on the test will ensure Vermont high school graduates have a fundamental understanding of our history, our system of government and our rights and responsibilities as U.S. citizens.

Second, when Vermont students learn of the work that those who wish to become naturalized U.S. citizens must put in, it will remind students, not only of the value of U.S. citizenship but also, of how lucky we are to have been born here.

Thank you,

Ellen Sivret  
Resident of Barre City