



# Media Advisory

## ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

PHONE: (602) 926-5545 • FAX: (602) 417-3043

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, Sept. 15, 2014

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### The Civics Education Initiative

PHOENIX – Rep. Steve Montenegro will hold a news conference Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2014, to announce his commitment to the Civics Education Initiative, a nationwide effort aiming to ensure high school graduates have a basic understanding of how government works.

When a sample of Arizona high school students took a test similar to what is given foreign born residents seeking US citizenship, less than 5 percent of them passed with a score of 60 percent or better.

The Initiative aims to restore an appreciation of US history and government, and through that knowledge create generations of engaged citizens and future leaders. The immediate goal of the Initiative is to get every state to adopt legislation requiring high school students to pass a 100 question test on US History to graduate.

#### Who:

- Rep. Steve Montenegro, Chairman House Reform and Human Services Committee
- Lucian Spataro, President & CEO of the Joe Foss Institute
- John R. Christian, Civics Proficiency Institute Board Member
- Jim Chamberlain, Civics Proficiency Institute Board Member

**What:** Information on the Civics Education Initiative and an opportunity for questions

**Why:** Basic understanding of government essential to democracy, Sept. 17 marks date in 1787 when the US Constitution was signed

**When:** Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2014, at 11 a.m.

**Where:** The Rose Garden at the capital, 1700 W. Washington St, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Civics Education Initiative: <http://civicseducationinitiative.com/>

National civics test: <http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/learners/study-test/study-materials-civics-test>

#### MEDIA CONTACT:

Christopher Leone  
Communications Specialist  
Arizona House of Representative – Republican Caucus  
cleone@azleg.gov

602.926.3233 (office)  
480.242.8643 (cell)

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