



LOUISIANA SENATE

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LA STATE LAWMAKERS READY TO HEAD BACK TO THE CLASSROOM

BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM SET TO BEGIN FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Louisiana state legislators are ready to head back to the classroom as part of the America's Legislators Back to School program. Beginning next week, state senators and representatives will be visiting classrooms around the state to teach young people – the nation's future leaders – what it's like to be a state legislator: the process, debate, negotiation, compromise and consensus that are the very fabric of representative democracy.

The Back to School program is a bi-partisan effort of the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) civic education initiative, Trust for Representative Democracy. It is an opportunity for young people to meet personally with their elected state lawmakers and for lawmakers to reach out to their youngest constituents. As part of the program, teachers and students are provided research and informational materials to better their understanding of the legislative process.

Begun as a pilot program in 1999, the civic education effort has grown from a one-day event to a yearlong effort. The kick-off week for the 2014 program begins Monday, September 15th.

For more information on the Legislators Back to School Program, go to <http://senate.la.gov/senators/backtoschool/2014/> or <http://house.louisiana.gov/BTS/>.

Principals and teachers are encouraged to invite lawmakers into their classrooms year-round by contacting their legislators or the Senate Office of Communication at 225.342.6270.

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