

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-Seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF SAN ANDREAS**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 26-0735.01 Josh Patel x2912

**HOUSE BILL 26-030**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Montoya, Zamora**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Clark, Esquivel**

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**House Committees**

Not assigned

**Senate Committees**

Not assigned

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT THAT MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS  
COMPLETE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AS A CONDITION OF ACADEMIC  
PROMOTION AND GRADUATION.

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <https://saleg.uscgov.com>)*

This bill requires all students enrolled in grades six through twelve in public schools to complete a minimum of seven full days, or fifty-six hours, of community service during each academic year. The service may be performed at any time, including weekends, school breaks, or summer months, and must be completed through approved nonprofit

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

organizations, government programs, school initiatives, or other qualifying community activities. School districts are responsible for establishing procedures to track and verify student participation and may provide guidance on acceptable service opportunities.

The bill is intended to promote civic engagement, responsibility, and community involvement among students while providing flexibility in how and when the service requirement is fulfilled. Districts may incorporate completion of the service hours into promotion or graduation requirements and must provide reasonable accommodations or waivers for students facing hardship or disability. By standardizing a statewide expectation for student volunteerism, the measure aims to strengthen communities while enhancing students' educational experience beyond the classroom.

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**1** *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of San*  
**2** *Andreas:*  
**3** **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.** This act shall be known and may  
**4** be cited as the “Student Community Engagement Act.”  
**5** **SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE DECLARATION.** The General  
**6** Assembly hereby finds and declares that: (a) Civic engagement  
**7** and community involvement are essential components of a  
**8** well-functioning democratic society. (b) Participation in volunteer  
**9** service helps students develop responsibility, empathy, leadership  
**10** skills, and a greater understanding of the needs of their  
**11** communities. (c) Schools play an important role in encouraging  
**12** students to become active and engaged citizens beyond the  
**13** classroom. (d) Establishing a reasonable annual community  
**14** service requirement for students will strengthen communities  
**15** while providing valuable experiential learning opportunities. (e) It  
**16** is therefore the intent of the General Assembly to require middle  
**17** and high school students to complete a modest amount of  
**18** community service each academic year while allowing flexibility  
**19** for when and how those hours are completed. **SECTION 3.**  
**20** **DEFINITIONS.** For the purposes of this act, unless the context  
**21** otherwise requires: (a) “Community service” means unpaid

1 volunteer work performed for the benefit of a nonprofit  
2 organization, government entity, community group, school  
3 program, or other activity approved by the school district. (b)  
4 “Eligible student” means a student enrolled in grades six through  
5 twelve in a public school within the state. (c) “Service day” means  
6 a minimum of eight (8) hours of documented community service  
7 activity. (d) “School year” means the academic year established  
8 by a local school district. **SECTION 4. STUDENT**  
9 **COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT.** (1) Beginning with  
10 the school year following the effective date of this act, each  
11 eligible student enrolled in grades six through twelve shall  
12 complete no fewer than seven (7) service days, or fifty-six (56)  
13 total hours, of community service during each school year. (2)  
14 The required hours may be completed at any time during the  
15 school year, including weekends, school breaks, summer months,  
16 or other periods approved by the school district. (3) School  
17 districts may permit students to begin accumulating service hours  
18 for the upcoming school year during the preceding summer. (4)  
19 Students shall document completion of service hours using forms,  
20 digital tracking systems, or other verification methods approved  
21 by the school district. **SECTION 5. APPROVED COMMUNITY**  
22 **SERVICE ACTIVITIES.** (a) Qualifying community service  
23 activities may include, but are not limited to: (I) Volunteering with  
24 nonprofit or charitable organizations; (II) Assisting local  
25 government programs or community initiatives; (III)  
26 Environmental conservation or cleanup projects; (IV) Tutoring or  
27 mentoring younger students; (V) Assisting with food banks,  
28 shelters, or community outreach programs; (VI) Participation in  
29 school-sponsored service initiatives. (b) School districts may  
30 establish additional criteria for eligible activities provided such  
31 criteria remain consistent with the purposes of this act. **SECTION**  
32 **6. ADMINISTRATION BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS.** (a) Each  
33 school district shall adopt policies necessary to implement and

1 administer the requirements of this act. (b) District policies shall  
2 include: (I) Procedures for verifying student service hours; (II) A  
3 list of recommended community service opportunities; (III)  
4 Accommodations for students with disabilities or other  
5 circumstances that may limit participation. (IV) Schools are  
6 encouraged to partner with local nonprofit organizations,  
7 municipalities, and community groups to facilitate service  
8 opportunities for students. **SECTION 7. EFFECT ON**  
9 **PROMOTION OR GRADUATION.** (a) Completion of the  
10 required annual community service hours shall be considered a  
11 component of student civic education. (b) School districts may  
12 require fulfillment of the community service requirement as a  
13 condition of promotion to the next grade level or graduation from  
14 high school. (c) Districts may allow reasonable waivers,  
15 alternatives, or adjusted requirements for students facing  
16 documented hardship or disability. **SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE**  
17 **DATE.** This act shall take effect on July 1 following its passage  
18 and approval, and shall apply to students beginning with the  
19 subsequent academic year.