

Washington, DC – Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) issued the following statement on Grant High School's outstanding performance in the national finals of the "We the People...The Citizen and the Constitution" competition:

"I am proud to congratulate the 40 students from Grant High School in Northeast Portland on their outstanding third place title in the "We the People...The Citizen and the Constitutional" national competition," praised Blumenauer. "These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals, gaining a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy, and their nationally ranked third place title is a testament to their hard work and dedication. Additionally, as we celebrate the achievement of these young students this week, National Teacher Appreciation Week, we must acknowledge the dedicated teachers and parents who made this achievement possible."

The national competition was modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. This three-day competition brought together over 1250 students from across the 50 states. The 40 Grant High School students presented their oral presentations before a panel of judges on constitutional topics ranging from federalism to the system of checks and balances. The students' testimony was followed by a period of question and answer, where the judges probed the depth of their understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.