
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4015

State of Washington **60th Legislature** **2007 Regular Session**

By Representatives Ormsby, Priest, Fromhold, Orcutt, Sells, Hankins, Hasegawa, Kenney and Morrell

Read first time 02/02/2007. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE SECRETARY OF THE
5 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
8 represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, Washington state supports, believes in, and pursues the
10 goal of the No Child Left Behind Act, which is that all students will
11 achieve at high levels; and

12 WHEREAS, The state welcomes the additional support the No Child
13 Left Behind Act has brought to focus on quality education and the
14 improvements needed to reach all children; and

15 WHEREAS, One of the key goals of the No Child Left Behind Act was
16 to place a "highly qualified" teacher in every classroom to ensure
17 academic success of students; and

18 WHEREAS, The No Child Left Behind Act defines a highly qualified
19 teacher as one who holds at least a bachelor's degree and has

1 demonstrated subject matter competence in each academic subject area in
2 which the teacher teaches; and

3 WHEREAS, There are growing numbers of teacher shortage areas,
4 especially in high need technical fields; and

5 WHEREAS, Career and technical education teachers are often hired
6 from industries in which a bachelor's degree is not the preferred level
7 of certification; and

8 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature passed legislation in
9 2006 that allows for credit for core academic subjects learned through
10 career and technical education, but if the teacher does not have a
11 bachelor's degree, the district must report them to parents as "not
12 highly qualified"; and

13 WHEREAS, The current definition of "highly qualified" places career
14 and technical education industry teachers at a disadvantage in school
15 districts; and

16 WHEREAS, Career and technical education teachers from industry are
17 in fact "highly qualified" to provide students with both the academic
18 and technical education they need to be successful;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
20 President and Congress make a positive change in the definition of
21 highly qualified teachers under the No Child Left Behind Act to include
22 career and technical teachers who come to the teaching profession
23 directly from industry.

24 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
25 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
26 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
27 House of Representatives, each member of Congress from the State of
28 Washington, and the Secretary of the United States Department of
29 Education.

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