
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4042

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville, Jarrett, Hunt, Chase, Schual-Berke, Kenney and Rockefeller; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

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:

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

8 WHEREAS, Washington State fully supports, deeply believes, and
9 actively pursues the goal of No Child Left Behind, all students
10 achieving at high levels; and

11 WHEREAS, We welcome the additional support No Child Left Behind has
12 brought to focus on quality education, the improvements needed to reach
13 all children, and the urgency nationwide to close achievement gaps; and

14 WHEREAS, We support a feasible and fair accountability system; and

15 WHEREAS, Washington State has attained approval and is in full
16 compliance with the requirements provided in the regulations; and

17 WHEREAS, There are four major areas in regulations and law, that if
18 improved, will support successful implementation of No Child Left
19 Behind; and

1 WHEREAS, Some students with disabilities have cognitive
2 disabilities that prevent them from succeeding on the Washington
3 Assessment of Student Learning, and therefore need more appropriate
4 measures for accountability; and

5 WHEREAS, Students with limited English proficiency are in their
6 program because they cannot speak, read, or write English and therefore
7 need more appropriate measures for accountability; and

8 WHEREAS, The Act imposes additional costs for statewide
9 professional development, certification upgrades, and the
10 administration of newly developed assessments for teachers and
11 paraprofessionals; and

12 WHEREAS, The definition of a "highly qualified teacher" in the act
13 fails to recognize the contributions of business and industry-trained
14 career and technical education teachers and will increase the
15 difficulty in recruiting and retaining these qualified, skilled
16 teachers; and

17 WHEREAS, We continue to support Washington state's continuous
18 growth model;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
20 President and Congress of the United States work together with state
21 legislatures and the United States Department of Education to improve
22 language in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and regulations
23 concerning its implementation, to make improvements to address the
24 issues raised in this Memorial, and to grant flexibility and changes
25 that will ensure successful nationwide implementation of the No Child
26 Left Behind Act.

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

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