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**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
HISPANIC EDUCATION ACTION PLAN**

- WHEREAS:** The United States Department of Education was created to promote equality in the American education systems between children of different backgrounds; and,
- WHEREAS:** The National Association for Educational Research reports that African-American urban and White rural students K-12 have the largest disparity from the national average on eight major educational aptitudes; and,
- WHEREAS:** The National Department of Education reported at its Seventh Annual State of American Education conference, that based on research conducted since 1981, educational outcomes are less dependent on racial or ethnic background, but rather socio-economic status; and,
- WHEREAS:** The National Department of Education's Hispanic Education Action Plan would spend 800 million dollars in fiscal year 2001-2002 on more than twelve programs exclusively benefiting those who register as Hispanic on the 2000 United States Census Form; and,
- WHEREAS:** This policy is contrary to the department's stance and statistical reports, which assert that educational outcomes are dependent on the economic index of the state, school district, and family; and,
- WHEREAS:** No statistical data produced by or for the department has clearly demonstrated racial or ethnic origin to be a quintessential factor in a child's educational outcome; and,
- WHEREAS:** Given the existence of the such evidence, the Hispanic minority in the United States do not have the largest below average learning gap among minority groups; and,
- WHEREAS:** The department has existing programs which do provide assistance to to students, families, and states based on economic rather than racial or ethnic measures. These include the School Renovation Program and the Small Class Size Program.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the the United States Department of Education to suspend the Hispanic Education Action Plan by June 1, 2001, before the beginning of fiscal year 2001-2002.
- THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the United States Department of Education to redistribute the 800 million dollars earmarked for the Hispanic Education Action Plan to School Renovation, Small Class Size Programs, and any other programs which benefit students whose education suffers due to economic burdens of the state, school district, or family.
- MANDATES:** President George W. Bush  
Vice-President Richard Cheney  
Secretary of Education Rod Paige

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Senator Paul Sarbanes  
Honorable Representative Roscoe G. Bartlett

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