

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING
20 THE ABOLISHING OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
30 EDUCATION

40 WHEREAS: The Constitution provides no authority whatsoever for the federal government
50 to be involved in education; and,

60 WHEREAS: Eliminating the department on these grounds would help to reestablish the
70 original understanding of the enumerated powers of the federal government;
80 and,

90 WHEREAS: No matter how brilliantly designed a federal government program may be, it
100 creates a uniformity among states that is harmful to creativity and improvement;
110 getting the federal government out of the picture would allow states and local
120 governments to create better ways of addressing education issues and problems;
130 and,

140 WHEREAS: If education were left at the local level, parents would become more involved in
150 reform efforts; and,

160 WHEREAS: Differences in school effectiveness among states and communities would be
170 noted, and other regions would copy the more effective programs and policies;
180 and,

190 WHEREAS: The contest between Congress and state legislatures to demonstrate who cares
200 more about education would be over, allowing members of Congress to focus
210 on areas and problems for which they have legitimate responsibility; and,

220 WHEREAS: Since most information about the problems and challenges of education is
230 present at the local level, Congress simply does not have the ability to improve
240 learning in school classrooms thousands of miles away; these problems are best
250 understood and addressed by local authorities and parents; and,

260 WHEREAS: The inevitable pattern of bureaucracy is to grow bigger and bigger; the
270 Department of Education should be eliminated now, before it evolves into an
280 even larger entity consuming more and more resources that could be better
290 spent by parents themselves; and,

300 WHEREAS: The \$47.6 billion spent each year by the Department of Education could be much
310 better spent if it were simply returned to the American people in the form of a
320 tax cut; parents themselves could then decide how best to spend that money;
330 and,

340 WHEREAS: The Department of Education has a record of waste and abuse; for example, the
350 the department reported losing track of \$450 million during three consecutive
360 General Accounting Office Audits equaling more than \$1.4 billion dollars; and,

370 WHEREAS: The Department of Education is an expensive failure that has added paperwork
380 and bureaucracy but little value to the nation's classrooms.

390 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges Congress
400 to abolish the United States Department of Education.

410 MANDATES: President George W. Bush

420 Vice President Richard Cheney
430 Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist
440 Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle
450 House Majority Leader Tom Delay
460 House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
470 Congresswoman Sue Kelly
480 Department of Education Secretary Rod Paige

Sponsor:

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