

R008-0405

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE TEACHER**
20 **SCREENING PROCESS IN MARYLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

30 **WHEREAS:** The No Child left Behind Act implemented in 2002 requires a teacher to have a
40 Bachelors degree, demonstrate subject matter and knowledge in subjects taught
50 and must have a full state certification; and,

60 **WHEREAS:** Nancy Grasmick told WBAL that it is possible the high number of substitutes is
70 contributing to an increase in disruptive incidents in some schools; and,

80 **WHEREAS:** The Maryland Public Schools system is hiring unqualified teachers to fulfill the
90 teacher shortage which is currently at 80 teachers in Baltimore City; and,

100 **WHEREAS:** Substitute teachers are hired with 30 credit hours of higher education, a clear
110 background check, and a transcript with education related courses; and,

120 **WHEREAS:** Academic performance is influenced by these unqualified individuals; and,

130 **WHEREAS:** In 2003, 29% of all Maryland students, Grade 3 tested under a proficient level of
140 reading; and,

150 **WHEREAS:** In 2002-2003, 11.6 % of teachers holding State Certifications have conditional
160 certificates; and,

170 **WHEREAS:** In 2002-2003, all special education, limited English proficiency and low income
180 (those qualified for free/reduced lunch) students did not meet the state standard
190 for reading; and,

200 **WHEREAS:** Not only are students being affected academically they are also facing
210 psychological problems from being sexually assaulted; and,

220 **WHEREAS:** The Post-Gazette has examined 727 cases of sexual assault by educators in the
230 past five years with 80% of these teachers losing their license; and,

240 **WHEREAS:** The Academic Dean of the Gilman school was sentenced to two years of prison
250 time after attempting to entice a fourteen year old into sexual conduct over the
260 internet in 2001; and,

270 **WHEREAS:** In 2003, St. Mary's county teacher, Charles J. McNeveich was charged with
280 assault; and,

290 **WHEREAS:** An Anne Arundel public school teacher pleaded guilty of one count of child
300 abuse involving one of his students at Anne Arundel High School last year; and,

310 **WHEREAS:** Carroll County Grand Jury indicted former county school superintendent
320 William H. Hyde charging him with raping the elementary school age girl he
330 had been accused of molesting; and,

340 **WHEREAS:** Student test scores are higher in counties with a greater wealth/pupil and
350 property taxes that pay teachers salaries.

360 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland
370 State Government to enforce the No Child Left Behind Act requirements for

380 qualified teachers [Title II, part A] so that public school students may have the
390 chance for a better education. Also to enforce a screening process that will
400 ensure the safety of our children.

410 **MANDATES:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
420 Lt. Governor Michael S. Steele
430 President of the Senate, Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
440 Speaker of the House of Delegates, Michael E. Busch
450 Senate Majority Leader Nathaniel J. McFadden
460 Senate Minority Leader J. Lowell Stoltzfus
470 House Majority Leader Kumar P. Barve
480 House Minority Leader George C. Edwards
490 Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, Nancy Grasmick

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