

CHAPTER 226

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 1618

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing the President and Congress regarding federal funding of education.

WHEREAS, The state of Kansas under the Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) System has long pursued the goal of improving the academic performance of all students, especially students of racial and ethnic background, lower economic status, limited English proficiency and with learning disabilities or challenges; and

WHEREAS, The state of Kansas, therefore, applauds the President and the United States Congress for putting forth the same goals in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, commonly known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and emphasizing the urgency in improving the performance of these students; and

WHEREAS, The reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, commonly known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, has encouraged some needed changes in public education and was initially accompanied with relatively large increases in federal funding for public elementary and secondary education; and

WHEREAS, However, the increases in federal funding since the first year of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, commonly known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, have been minimal; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has decreased funding for reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, commonly known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, in fiscal year 2006 by \$793,000,000, decreased funding for postsecondary education by \$166,000,000, and decreased funding for programs that serve students with disabilities by \$21,000,000; Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therein:* That the Kansas legislature memorializes the President and the United States Congress to make a serious commitment to improving the quality of the nation's public schools by substantially increasing its funding for the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 commonly known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the Higher Education Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and other educational related programs; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the state of Kansas requests that the President, United States Congress and United States Department of Education offer the various states waivers, exemptions or whatever flexibility is possible regarding the requirements of the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, commonly known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, in any year that federal funding for public elementary and secondary education is decreased to prevent states from spending state and local resources on activities that have not proven effective in raising student achievement and may not be the priority of an individual state; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the state of Kansas encourages other states to pass similar resolutions; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Secretary of the United States Department of Education and each member of the Kansas legislative delegation.

Adopted by the House May 1, 2006.

Adopted by the Senate May 2, 2006.

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