

Senate Joint Resolution 2012 - Introduced

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 2012
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SJR 2008)

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution supporting devolution of power from the United
2 States department of education to the states.

3 WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United
4 States reserves powers not delegated to the federal government to
5 the states, and education is not enumerated as a responsibility
6 of the federal government; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States department of education's
8 creation in 1980 has led to significant federal overreach in
9 education through burdensome regulations and one-size-fits-all
10 mandates; and

11 WHEREAS, despite an annual budget of \$60 billion and another
12 \$276 billion in one-time spending for COVID-19 recovery efforts,
13 fourth and eighth grade reading scores remain roughly unchanged
14 since the early 1990s when national measurements first began; and

15 WHEREAS, states and local communities possess unique knowledge
16 of their students' educational needs and are best positioned to
17 develop the curriculum and policies that reflect their values and
18 priorities; and

19 WHEREAS, President Trump has publicly expressed a desire
20 to eliminate the United States department of education and
21 rightfully put the states back in charge of education; and

22 WHEREAS, the elimination of the United States department of
23 education is not only a constitutional necessity, but will also
24 cause taxpayer dollars to be spent more efficiently and lead to
25 better student outcomes; NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 That the General Assembly of the State of Iowa supports
2 federal efforts to eliminate the United States department of
3 education and urges the United States Congress to fully cooperate
4 with these efforts.

5 EXPLANATION

6 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

8 This joint resolution supports the devolution of power from
9 the United States department of education to the states.

10 The Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States
11 reserves powers not delegated to the federal government to the
12 states, and education is not enumerated as a responsibility
13 of the federal government. The resolution provides that the
14 United States department of education has resulted in burdensome
15 regulations and general mandates, and that high levels of
16 spending have not resulted in an increase in student reading
17 scores.

18 The resolution provides that states and local communities are
19 best positioned to develop curriculum and policies because they
20 possess unique knowledge of their students' educational needs,
21 that President Trump has expressed a desire to eliminate the
22 United States department of education, and that such elimination
23 will result in taxpayer dollars being spent more efficiently.

24 The resolution states that the General Assembly supports
25 federal efforts to eliminate the United States department of
26 education and urges the United States Congress to fully cooperate
27 with these efforts.