

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. C. R. No. 16

Senator Brenner

Cosponsors: Senators Cirino, Roegner, Schaffer

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge Congress to dismantle the United States 1
Department of Education. 2

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, The United States Constitution establishes a 3
federal system that reserves those powers not delegated to the 4
federal government to the states and the people; and 5

WHEREAS, Education is not a power delegated to the federal 6
government and has historically been governed by states and 7
local communities accountable to families; and 8

WHEREAS, The creation of the United States Department of 9
Education expanded federal involvement in education 10
significantly, while academic achievement stagnated or declined; 11
and 12

WHEREAS, National assessments and polling show troubling 13
trends in student reading and math performance, as well as a 14
lack of basic civic knowledge; and 15

WHEREAS, Decades of increased federal spending and 16
regulation have not improved outcomes for students, but have 17
imposed burdens on states and their schools; and 18

WHEREAS, Federal control has created administrative bloat 19
and bureaucracy that diverts resources away from classrooms and 20
students; and 21

WHEREAS, States are the drivers of innovation in education, 22
leading effective education reforms that expand choice and 23
improve outcomes; and 24

WHEREAS, Governors, state legislators, and local officials 25
are directly accountable to parents and taxpayers for their 26
decisions regarding education, providing clearer responsibility 27
and responsiveness than unelected federal bureaucrats; and 28

WHEREAS, Prioritizing the needs of students and families 29
requires placing decision-making authority with those closest to 30
the classroom; and 31

WHEREAS, Secretary McMahon has initiated significant 32
organizational restructuring by reducing the Department of 33
Education's workforce without adverse effects on educational 34
services; now therefore be it 35

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 36
Assembly of the State of Ohio, affirm our responsibility to lead 37
on education in a manner consistent with the United States 38
Constitution and the principles of federalism; and be it further 39

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 40
Assembly of the State of Ohio, support efforts to dismantle the 41
United States Department of Education, returning authority over 42
education back to the states; and be it further 43

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 44
Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage shifting core 45
responsibilities of the federal Department of Education to other 46
agencies, in both state and federal governments, that are better 47
suited to execute them; and be it further 48

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 49
Assembly of the State of Ohio, intend to seek every opportunity, 50
in cooperation with other federal agencies, to regain fuller 51
control of Ohio's K-12 schools; and be it further 52

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 53
Assembly of the State of Ohio, intend to collaborate with the 54
Governor's office, the Department of Education and Workforce, 55
and the Attorney General, in conjunction with the General 56
Assembly, to establish a task force to create and publish a 57
comprehensive plan to assume full responsibility for education 58
programs currently administered by the United States Department 59
of Education, including, but not limited to, Title I funds, 60
special education, and civil rights; and be it further 61

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 62
Assembly of the State of Ohio, aspire that the comprehensive 63
plan include: 64

(A) Statutory changes required to assume administrative 65
control over federal education programs; 66

(B) Recommended waivers, transfers, or block grants to be 67
requested from the federal government; 68

(C) Identification of federal education mandates that the 69
State intends to decline to administer because the State has 70
determined the mandates are not statutorily required; and 71

(D) One or more pieces of legislation suitable for 72
immediate introduction; and be it further 73

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 74
Assembly of the State of Ohio, hope that the comprehensive plan 75
rely, in part, on the inventory and review discussed below; and 76
be it further 77

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 78

Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Department of Education 79
and Workforce to conduct an inventory of all existing federal 80
education programs and grants administered by the State, 81
including the funding amounts, statutory authority, and 82
reporting requirements, and to transmit the inventory to the 83
General Assembly; and be it further 84

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 85
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Attorney General to 86
conduct a review of all state statutes and regulations that 87
reference or incorporate federal education statutes or 88
regulations; and be it further 89

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 90
Assembly of the State of Ohio, intend to introduce one or more 91
bills to implement the comprehensive plan; and be it further 92

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 93
Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage the Department of 94
Education and Workforce to administratively implement 95
recommendations of the comprehensive plan that do not require 96
statutory changes, to the extent permitted by law; and be it 97
further 98

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 99
Assembly of the State of Ohio, intend to cooperate with other 100
states to pursue joint waiver requests and coordinated 101
negotiations with the United States Department of Education to 102
accelerate the prompt and proper return of education authority 103
to the states; and be it further 104

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 105
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the 106
United States, the United States Secretary of Education, 107
President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, 108
the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of 109

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| Representatives, the members of the Ohio Congressional | 110 |
| delegation, and the news media of Ohio. | 111 |