

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 55

Rep. Kelly offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to support the devolution of power from the
2 United States Department of Education to the states and to urge the
3 United States Congress to fully cooperate with these efforts.

4 Whereas, The Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution
5 clearly states that powers that are not delegated to the federal
6 government, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the
7 states or the people. Education is not enumerated as a
8 responsibility of the federal government; and

9 Whereas, The creation of the United States Department of
10 Education in 1980 has contributed to significant federal overreach
11 into education through burdensome regulations and one-size-fits-all
12 standards; and

13 Whereas, Despite 276 billion dollars in one-time spending for
14 COVID-19 recovery efforts, and the Department of Education spending

1 268 billion dollars in the 2024 fiscal year, gaps in meeting
2 educational needs continue to cause our students to suffer; and

3 Whereas, Student reading scores have been on a decline since
4 2019. In 2024, it was found that about 40 percent of 4th grade
5 students are working below a basic reading level based on national
6 standards, which is the largest percentage since 2002. This same
7 report found that about one third of 8th grade students failed to
8 meet national reading benchmarks, which is the largest percentage
9 ever; and

10 Whereas, States and local communities possess unique knowledge
11 of their students' educational needs and are best positioned to
12 develop the curriculum and policies that reflect their values and
13 priorities. With over 1.3 million students enrolled in Michigan K-
14 12 public schools, we have a responsibility to make sure our
15 students are being set up for success; and

16 Whereas, President Trump has publicly expressed a desire to
17 eliminate the Department of Education, and to rightfully put the
18 states back in full control of education; and

19 Whereas, The elimination of the Department of Education is not
20 only consistent with the spirit of the Tenth Amendment to the
21 United States Constitution, but it could also help facilitate
22 taxpayer dollars being spent more efficiently and help students
23 achieve better outcomes; now, therefore, be it

24 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we support the
25 devolution of power from the United States Department of Education
26 to the states, and we urge the United States Congress to fully
27 cooperate with these efforts; and be it further

28 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
29 Secretary of the United States Department of Education, the

1 President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
2 the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the
3 Michigan congressional delegation.