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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4020**

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**State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      2000 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Wensman, Quall, Cox, Keiser, Talcott, Rockefeller, Thomas, Haigh, Carlson, Schindler, D. Schmidt, Sump, Mulliken, Benson, Barlean, H. Sommers, Pennington, Lisk, Dunn, Delvin, McDonald, Schual-Berke, O'Brien and Esser)

Read first time 02/01/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1            TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8            WHEREAS, Many educators, particularly those who teach special  
9 education classes, find that the amount of federally required paperwork  
10 dramatically reduces both the quantity and quality of time they can  
11 devote to their students and their profession; and

12           WHEREAS, We believe that someone is responsible for this paperwork  
13 overload, yet we have been unable to determine who. Local districts  
14 claim the federal government is at fault along with our own state  
15 regulations and guidelines. The federal Department of Education tells  
16 us it is a local problem. Others identify the courts as the source of  
17 the problem; and

18           WHEREAS, Our school children do not particularly care who is  
19 responsible for the paperwork that reduces the time they see their  
20 teachers; and

1       WHEREAS, We commit that the Office of the Superintendent of Public  
2 Instruction, representatives from local school districts, and  
3 representatives from all interested special education organizations,  
4 will strive to work together to limit the amount of state and local  
5 required paperwork to that which is appropriate and necessary to help  
6 children achieve their educational goals without diminishing the level  
7 or quality of education provided to the student; and

8       WHEREAS, We cannot do it alone given all of the conflicting claims  
9 and the role of the federal government;

10       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress  
11 pass and the President approve legislation which would require a review  
12 of special education paperwork, work with our schools to reduce  
13 paperwork, and consider providing parents of special education students  
14 the opportunity to work with their child's educator to determine the  
15 most appropriate amount and the most appropriate type of paperwork  
16 which will help their child achieve their educational goals without  
17 diminishing the level or quality of education provided to the student  
18 and which will continue to protect the rights of students guaranteed  
19 under the individuals with disabilities education act. The goal of all  
20 concerned should be to limit the amount of paperwork to that which is  
21 necessary and beneficial to the individual student.

22       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
23 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the  
24 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker  
25 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the  
26 State of Washington.

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