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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4024

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Schual-Berke, Cox, Keiser, Rockefeller, Santos, Carlson, D. Schmidt, Wensman, Thomas, Quall, Haigh, Talcott, Romero, Regala, Edwards, Linville, Anderson, Morris, Clements, Skinner, Kenney, Conway, Mitchell and Veloria

Read first time 01/21/2000. Referred to Committee on Education.

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 WHEREAS, Every child is unique and deserves a stimulating and  
6 challenging education regardless of ability; and

7 WHEREAS, True equity involves providing an appropriate education to  
8 every learner; and

9 WHEREAS, Our nation's diverse student population includes  
10 academically gifted boys and girls from every region and from all  
11 ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds; and

12 WHEREAS, Gifted children are unusually swift and efficient learners  
13 in their areas of strength and therefore require in those domains a  
14 different pace, depth, and level of education than is ordinarily  
15 provided at their age; and

16 WHEREAS, Being gifted doesn't automatically make these children  
17 better students, however, gifted students learn faster and in different  
18 ways than typical students, causing special educational needs; and

19 WHEREAS, Only in conjunction with appropriate school challenges can  
20 gifted children realize their enormous potential contribution to our  
21 society and its citizens; and

1       WHEREAS, A nation seeking to provide for world class education  
2 cannot afford to exclude its most capable students from appropriate and  
3 equitable opportunities for educational growth in the classroom; and

4       WHEREAS, Congress has sent a message about the importance of gifted  
5 student success by funding the Javits Program of research and  
6 demonstration services with an emphasis on underserved groups;

7       NOW, THEREFORE, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of  
8 Representatives of the State of Washington, in legislative session  
9 assembled, respectfully entreat that Congress continue to help meet the  
10 unique special needs of gifted students by including formula grants to  
11 states for gifted and talented education programs (HR 637 and S 505) in  
12 its consideration of the reauthorization of the Elementary and  
13 Secondary Education Act.

14       BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
15 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the  
16 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker  
17 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the  
18 State of Washington.

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