

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Representative Thicksten**

H.C.R.

5
6
7 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

8 URGING CONGRESS NOT TO ADD ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER AND
9 ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER WITH HYPERACTIVITY AS SEPARATE
10 HANDICAPPING CONDITIONS UNDER THE INDIVIDUALS WITH
11 DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

12
13
14 WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Education has issued a Notice of
15 Inquiry concerning the inclusion of attention deficit disorder (ADD) and
16 Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity (ADHD) as separate handicapping
17 conditions for students under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
18 (IDEA); and

19
20 WHEREAS, the National Education Association has adopted a position
21 which recognized that attention deficit disorder and attention deficit
22 disorder with hyperactivity are disorders which often lead to difficulty in
23 learning but for which there has been no definitive research nor
24 professionally accepted definition for such disorders and the inclusion of
25 such as a separate handicapping condition under the IDEA would be
26 inappropriate; and

27
28 WHEREAS, the National Education Association also believes that a
29 majority of ADD/ADHD students are best served in restructured classroom
30 environments incorporating behavior modification techniques with improved
31 teacher and parent training rather than placement in special education; and

32
33 WHEREAS, the National Education Association feels that only severe cases
34 in which the student fails to respond to changes in environment and
35 instructional techniques merit special education referral under the existing

1 categories of handicapping conditions covered under IDEA; and

2

3 WHEREAS, the 78th Session of the Arkansas General Assembly has reviewed
4 the position of the National Education Association and agrees that it will be
5 deleterious to the children of Arkansas and the nation to address the
6 educational needs of ADD/ADHD students through assigning them to special
7 education;

8

9 NOW THEREFORE,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

12

13 THAT the 78th Session of the Arkansas General Assembly hereby urges the
14 Congress of the United States not to include ADD/ADHD as a separate
15 handicapping condition under IDEA; and

16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this session of the Arkansas General
18 Assembly would request that Congress direct the U.S. Department of Education
19 to provide guidance in defining ADD/ADHD and further to provide assistance and
20 funding to the states for establishing training programs for teachers and
21 parents and development of strategies to adequately and appropriately serve
22 the ADD/ADHD population; and

23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, upon adoption in
25 the Senate, be forwarded by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to
26 each member of the Arkansas Congressional delegation.

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

1
2