

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE BUDGET PROPOSAL PRESENTED
TO CONGRESS FOR A ONE HUNDRED PERCENT CUT IN FEDERAL
FUNDING OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, the federal budget proposal which was delivered to Congress on January 5, 1987 included a recommendation for a one hundred percent cut in vocational education programs funded through the Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act of 1984, as well as a recommendation for rescission of a significant portion of the fiscal year 1987 funds for vocational education as approved by Congress; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of federal vocational education funding (\$8,309,767 allocated to Arkansas) would force discontinuance of special Arkansas programs for disadvantaged and handicapped vocational education students (\$2,472,986), displaced workers in need of training or retraining (\$927,370), the incarcerated (\$77,281), as well as single parents and homemakers (\$656,887); and

WHEREAS, the elimination of federal vocational education funds for consumer and homemaking or home economics programs (\$362,284) is included in the recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of federal vocational education funding would force discontinuance of curriculum development, in-service training for teachers and administrators, program improvement, innovation, and expansion of vocational education programs for which approximately \$3,500,000 is currently allocated in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of federal vocational education funding would force staff reductions, including over 100 teachers and service providers in vo-tech schools and colleges in this State, as well as approximately half of the State administrative and technical assistance staff for vocational education; and

those providing State leadership for vocational education; and

WHEREAS, vocational education is the only education program targeted for elimination from the federal budget, and the recommendation for elimination of the federal investment in vocational education is inconsistent with support of

the program demonstrated by the Congress last year when the Congress increased federal support for vocational education by \$70,000,000;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Arkansas General Assembly hereby expresses its strong opposition to the proposed federal budget cut, which would eliminate one hundred percent of the vocational education programs now funded through the Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act of 1984, and urges the Congress of the United States to reject such recommendation and to continue federal participation with State governments in providing funding for essential vocational education programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT the members of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation are urged to oppose the proposal for a one hundred percent cut in federal vocational education program funds, which would force the elimination of essential vocational education programs which benefit the handicapped, displaced workers, and the incarcerated, and would adversely affect programs of our public schools, vo-tech schools, and institutions of higher learning which benefit thousands of citizens of this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT upon the adoption of this Resolution copies thereof shall be furnished by the Secretary of State to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate of the Congress of the United States, and to each member of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation.