## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2005

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Simple Resolution Adopted

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 2879 Adopted 6/29/06

Sponsors: Representatives Glazier, Johnson, B. Allen, Jeffus (Primary Sponsors);

Pate and Wiley.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

June 19, 2006

A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO RESPOND QUICKLY BUT THOUGHTFULLY ON THE FINAL REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR STATES TO IMPLEMENT THE FINAL REGULATIONS, AND AFFORD AS MUCH FLEXIBILITY AS POSSIBLE TO THE STATES DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD.

Whereas, North Carolina has had a statewide testing program in reading and mathematics in grades three through eight since the 1992-1993 school year; and

Whereas, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the subsequent passage of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) have caused changes to occur in the statewide testing program; and

Whereas, these two major federal acts together affect the testing of all students, including students with disabilities and Limited English Proficient (LEP) students; and

Whereas, the design, process, and procedures for appropriately assessing students with disabilities and LEP students is a challenge; and

Whereas, there is recognition of the importance of scientifically based instruction for all students, including students with disabilities and LEP students, with appropriate, reasonable, and valid universally designed assessments to measure progress; and

Whereas, on December 15, 2005, the United States Department of Education (USED) issued proposed regulations in the Federal Register; and

Whereas, the USED has received numerous comments and concerns expressed during the comment period for the above-mentioned proposed regulations; and

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Whereas, the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) have expressed explicitly their concerns about the testing of students with disabilities; and

Whereas, the time given to states to make the changes necessary to meet the federal regulations in a timely manner is often inadequate; and

Whereas, the stakes involved for students, schools, school districts, and the State are high based on these assessments; Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

**SECTION 1.** The North Carolina House of Representatives urges the United States Department of Education to respond quickly but thoughtfully to the concerns expressed by CCSSO and NASDSE on the final regulations for students with disabilities, allow sufficient time for states to implement the final regulations, and afford as much flexibility as possible to the states during the interim period and in implementing the final regulations.

**SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and the Secretary of Education of the United States.

**SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.