

CHAPTER 518**(HCR 88)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing a study of the issues of the adequate preparation of elementary and secondary school students for promotion to higher grades, the establishment of appropriate educational criteria for entrance into higher grades, and the remediation rates of students entering postsecondary educational institutions.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky has established that public schools shall expect a high level of achievement of all students, and shall develop their students' ability to apply core concepts and principles from mathematics, the sciences, the arts, the humanities, social studies, and practical living studies to situations they will encounter throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, the ability to apply those concepts and principles is predicated on a student's accumulation of knowledge and the development of critical thinking skills over the course of time; and

WHEREAS, a student who is unprepared for the subject matter presented to him or her in the classroom will be unable to achieve at high levels and is more likely to lack academic motivation; and

WHEREAS, low achieving students are more likely to drop out of school prior to graduation; and

WHEREAS, over thirty-eight percent (38%) of first-time students enrolled in a Kentucky public university in the fall of 1997 required remediation in one or more subjects in order to be adequately prepared for college-level work; and

WHEREAS, the practice of promoting students to a higher grade before they have gained sufficient knowledge and skills to succeed, exacerbates the problem of low student achievement by expecting students to learn subject matter for which they are unprepared; and

WHEREAS, developing a process to assure the level of educational preparedness of students entering grades five, nine, and twelve is a possible way to assist students to achieve academic success, and thereby, success throughout their lives;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The Education, Assessment, and Accountability Review Subcommittee shall conduct a study of the issue of the adequate preparation of elementary and secondary school students for promotion to higher grades, and investigate the appropriateness, feasibility, and effectiveness of establishing specific educational criteria for entrance into grades five, nine, and twelve. As part of its study, the subcommittee shall review information regarding the level of remediation required by high school graduates from Kentucky upon entry into postsecondary educational institutions.

Section 2. Provisions of this resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a completion date. **Approved April 21, 2000**

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