

CHAPTER 222**(HJR 188)**

A JOINT RESOLUTION urging local school districts, postsecondary education institutions, the Kentucky Department of Education, and other education entities to promote the formation of Future Educators Clubs.

WHEREAS, Kentucky is facing critical teacher shortages; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that quality teaching be made available to all Kentucky students; and

WHEREAS, it is in Kentucky's best interest that the best and brightest students be recruited into the field of teaching; and

WHEREAS, Future Educators Clubs, sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa, help middle and high school students explore careers in education, provide service opportunities to students, and offer schools and communities a chance to "grow their own teachers"; and

WHEREAS, Future Educators Clubs serve to elevate the role of teachers and provide new opportunities for communication about education and its place in the community; and

WHEREAS, Future Educators Clubs help teachers examine and explain their role in students' lives; and

WHEREAS, Future Educators Clubs can create a positive image of teaching for students, parents, and other citizens; and

WHEREAS, Future Educators Clubs currently do not exist widespread across Kentucky;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The General Assembly urges the Kentucky Department of Education to utilize a portion of existing funds designated for teacher recruitment to provide planning grants to local school districts to organize local Future Educators Clubs.

Section 2. The General Assembly requests that the Kentucky Department of Education initiate discussions and planning activities with public and private postsecondary education institutions, local school districts, and other education entities and professionally related organizations to develop a coordination plan for the development of Future Educators Clubs. The purpose of the coordination plan is to produce the following result:

- (a) Identification of a lead agency or lead agencies to coordinate the development of Future Educators Clubs or other appropriate design for coordination;
- (b) Assistance to local teachers to establish local Future Educators Clubs;
- (c) An annual statewide conference for members of Future Educators Clubs;
- (d) Access to resource materials and training to aid in the development of local Future Educators Clubs;
- (e) Coordination and leadership for local districts that request assistance;
- (f) Access to scholarships for students who choose teaching as a career path; and

- (g) Other outcomes as determined by the group.

Approved April 5, 2002