

**CHAPTER 332****(SCR 142)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky educators, and students to participate in international exchange and study programs.

WHEREAS, the economic and cultural structure of our world is becoming increasingly global in scope and perspective; and

WHEREAS, knowledge of other cultures, economies, and systems of government is becoming an increasingly necessary skill for future leaders and workers; and

WHEREAS, even within Kentucky, the diversity of languages, cultures, and ethnic backgrounds is expanding, requiring both Kentucky educators and students to develop global communication skills and understanding; and

WHEREAS, international education exchange and study programs offer both educators and students the opportunity to learn about foreign nations, cultures, and customs; and

WHEREAS, these programs offer educators and students the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships and professional relationships as well as developing new methods of teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, these programs offer educators and students the ability to develop increased awareness of diverse ideas, values, world views, and ways of life; and

WHEREAS, participation in international educational exchange and study programs offers educators and students a view of countries with vastly different systems of government, social and cultural beliefs, and economic standards, increasing the appreciation these educators and students have for the American system of government, economy, and basic personal freedoms when they return to the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. The Kentucky Board of Education is urged to encourage its students, teachers, administrators, and educational policy makers to participate in international study and educational exchange programs and other activities that advance cultural awareness and promote mutual understanding and respect for citizens of other countries.

Section 2. The Department of Education is urged to identify international opportunities for learning, educational exchange programs, and the availability of curriculum materials and provide information to local districts that will increase the awareness of Kentucky educators and students of other cultures, languages, economies, and systems of government.

**Approved April 11, 2002**