



RESOLUTION ON THE EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

WHEREAS, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was enacted on December 10th, 2015, and reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA); and

WHEREAS, ESEA established a national commitment to offering equitable education opportunities to all elementary and secondary students, regardless of location, family income, or other factors; and

WHEREAS, in the four decades since the passing of ESEA, the reauthorizations of the act – including ESSA – have continued to provide support for low-income or other disadvantaged student groups; and

WHEREAS, ESSA increases state and local education agencies flexibility and autonomy in the implementation of various education policies, which will help states and local education agencies pursue equity of opportunity; and

WHEREAS, each state has unique challenges and opportunities for educational attainment, and students benefit from education policies that are crafted at the state and local level with adequate stakeholder participation and consideration of those unique conditions; and

WHEREAS, ESSA acknowledges that state and local leaders are uniquely positioned to make decisions regarding funding and setting accountability standards.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments requests that the Congress and the Executive Branch continue to support the autonomy of state and local governments on public education by providing adequate flexibility in making funding and accountability decisions.

Adopted by The Council of State Governments' Executive Committee this 11th Day of December, 2016 in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia.