

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 44

WHEREAS, an employee of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is seeking to apply for a federal grant from the Early Learning Challenge Fund to implement a quality rating system for early childhood in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has previously considered legislation during several legislative sessions to adopt a quality rating system similar to the Early Learning Challenge Fund's tiered quality rating system and has repeatedly refused to enact legislation creating such a system; and

WHEREAS, strong opposition to a quality rating system continues to exist in the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, an employee of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is knowingly circumventing the legislative process and the will of the General Assembly by attempting to implement a quality rating system and applying for an approximately \$60 million federal grant that requires the implementation of such a system; and

WHEREAS, the receipt of a grant from the Early Learning Challenge Fund would demonstrate a complete disregard for the legislative process and require the establishment of a system that the General Assembly has refused to adopt and has strongly opposed:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-sixth General Assembly, First Extraordinary Session, hereby demand that the Commissioner of Education, State Board of Education, and Governor cease and desist from taking any further action on the application and not apply for a grant from the Early Learning Challenge Fund or any other source that requires an early childhood quality rating system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the Commissioner of Education, each member of the State Board of Education, and the Governor.

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