

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27
BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND ENCOURAGING SUPPORT FOR EX-
3 ISTING AND NEW INNOVATIVE PRACTICES AND APPROACHES TO PUBLIC
4 EDUCATION IN A TIME OF ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY.

5 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 WHEREAS, Idaho and the nation have entered unsettled economic times that may reduce
7 tax revenues for years to come; and

8 WHEREAS, an educated citizenry is necessary for the continuation of a republican form
9 of limited government; and

10 WHEREAS, the current economic crisis requires legislators and educators to consider
11 innovative approaches to public education that will maintain or improve current academic suc-
12 cesses while possibly operating with fewer funds; and

13 WHEREAS, a cost-effective and quality education system requires active cooperation be-
14 tween students, parents and teachers; and

15 WHEREAS, clear and concise goals give unified purpose and direction and create a more
16 efficient public education system.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of
18 the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein,
19 that we:

20 (1) Encourage the Idaho State Department of Education and the Idaho State Board of
21 Education to work with local school districts and local school boards to find ways to improve
22 educational outcomes even in times of reduced funding;

23 (2) Support efforts that ensure as many resources as possible reach the classroom where
24 they best serve the students;

25 (3) Seek to boost student academic achievement by increasing student desire to learn and
26 enabling parents to become more active in the learning process;

27 (4) Consider wise policies that improve educational outcomes while giving school dis-
28 tricts more flexibility.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Idaho encourage sup-
30 port for existing innovative school practices and for the consideration of new ideas including,
31 but not limited to:

32 (1) Grade acceleration exit exams to encourage students who have demonstrated aca-
33 demic readiness to move ahead by subject matter or by grade level;

34 (2) Early graduation for students who have demonstrated that they are college ready, and
35 consider options that may allow a portion of the money that would have been expended to
36 follow students to their next level of education;

37 (3) The exploration of other innovations that lead to greater student academic achieve-
38 ment and school improvement;

- 1 (4) The strengthening of programs, when possible, to ensure every student graduates with
- 2 a marketable skill.