Whereas, after 34 years the federal Elementary & Secondary Education Act (ESEA) has failed to boost the academic achievement of the students the program purports to serve,

Whereas, the federal involvement in education ties the hands of states with mandates, paperwork, and bureaucracy,

Whereas, Congress does not allow states to consolidate the funds in the ESEA program to help existing state reforms and in some cases hinders state reforms,

Now therefore be it resolved that: the {legislative body} urges Congress to allow {name of state} to consolidate its share of the formula based categorical programs under ESEA to help {name of state} invest in the education of the students served under ESEA. {Name of state} invites the Federal Department of Education to enter into a contractual agreement with us in which we will outline how {name of state} will boost the academic achievement of our students. If {name of state} fails to raise student achievement per the contractual agreement, then ESEA programs will revert to the terms predating the contractual agreement.

Adopted by ALEC Board of Directors on May 20, 1999