

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**



BILL NO. 61-119

INTRODUCED BY: Sparks (CSS)

SECONDED BY: Pham (NatSci)

A BILL TO: Advocate For Michigan State University to Stay Proactive and Engaged with Students in the Midst of the Closure of the United States Department of Education

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Education was officially established in 1979 through the passage of the Department of Education Organization Act (Public Law 96-88) with the stated purposes of:

- Strengthening the federal commitment to ensuring access to equal educational opportunities for all individuals;
- Supplementing and complementing the efforts of states, local school systems, private sector entities, public and private educational institutions, nonprofit educational research institutions, community-based organizations, parents, and students to improve the quality of education;
- Encouraging increased public, parental, and student involvement in federal education programs;
- Promoting improvements in the quality and effectiveness of education through federally supported research, evaluation, and information sharing;
- Enhancing coordination among federal education programs;
- Improving the management and efficiency of federal education activities, particularly regarding the distribution of federal funds and the reduction of administrative burdens on funding recipients;
- Increasing the accountability of federal education programs to the President, Congress, and the public (Section 102, Public Law 96-88)¹; and,

WHEREAS, Since its creation, the Department of Education has assumed additional responsibilities, including overseeing student loan programs, enforcing Title IX (as mentioned in Bill 61-89)² and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), supporting school safety and mental health programs, promoting Science,

¹ <https://www.ed.gov/about/ed-overview/an-overview-of-the-us-department-of-education--pg-1>

² [61-89_Support Students & Affected Communities through Title IX Changes_Sparks_Higgins.pdf](#)

Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education, among other initiatives essential to ensuring equitable access to quality education; and,

WHEREAS, A recent Presidential Executive Order states, "The Secretary of Education shall, to the maximum extent appropriate and permitted by law, take all necessary steps to facilitate the closure of the Department of Education and return authority over education to the States and local communities while ensuring the effective and uninterrupted delivery of services, programs, and benefits on which Americans rely"³; and,

WHEREAS, The closure of the Department of Education would leave students vulnerable by potentially eliminating or reducing critical support systems, diminishing accessibility to federally supported educational resources, altering educational standards, and creating uncertainty regarding the transition of responsibilities to state governments without a clearly defined or accessible plan; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall take the following actions of advocating to university administration to explore ways to support programs, student research, and other initiatives currently funded or facilitated by the United States Department of Education should Congress move forward with its closure in effort to support the students of Michigan State; and let it be further,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall in addition request of university administration to provide students with timely updates and information regarding the potential impacts on student resources, financial aid, and other educational support systems if the United States Department of Education is continuously dismantled and or closed; and let it be further,

RESOLVED, That the Associated Students of Michigan State University shall additionally advocate for Michigan State University to collaborate, where and if possible, with levels of government to ensure continued support for postsecondary and higher education if the transition of educational oversight to state governments occurs.

INTRODUCED ON 03.27.2025

REFERRED TO N/A COMMITTEE ON _____

SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN Floor Introduction DATE 03.27.2025

COMMITTEE ACTION _____

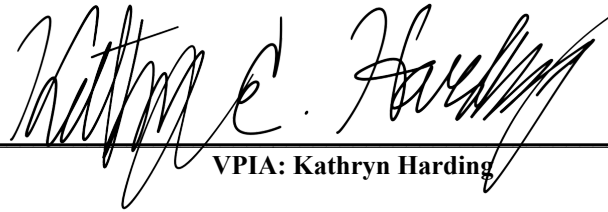
PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN X Voice Majority 03.27.2025

PASSED FAILED VOTE DATE



PRESIDENT: Connor Le



VPIA: Kathryn Harding