



SPONSOR: Rep. Chukwuocha & Sen. Lockman  
Reps. Baumbach, K. Johnson, Kowalko; Sen. Sokola

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 87

ESTABLISHING STRUCTURES TO ENHANCE EQUITY IN EDUCATION IN DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, enhancing educational equity for all students in Delaware is a prerequisite to allowing all students to  
2 meet their potential; and

3 WHEREAS, parent engagement and the necessary knowledge and support for this engagement are a key predictor  
4 of student success; and

5 WHEREAS, federal and Delaware statutes and regulations set forth standards and reporting requirements related  
6 to equitable education; and

7 WHEREAS, including families and stakeholders in development, implementation and monitoring of policies and  
8 practices related to equitable education is best practice as well as included in a variety of areas; and

9 WHEREAS, equitable education has been an issue requiring litigation in Delaware; and

10 WHEREAS, Delaware has made both specific and a general commitment to improving equitable education; and

11 WHEREAS, current data continues to demonstrate large gaps in both progress and outcomes between  
12 disadvantaged students and their peers; and

13 WHEREAS, rates of academic achievement, access to rigorous coursework, and exclusionary disciplinary  
14 practices continue to negatively impact students of color and students identified as special needs.

15 NOW, THEREFORE:

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the  
17 Senate concurring therein, that structures be created to enhance the equity of Delaware's education system, utilizing  
18 effective family and stakeholder engagement in development, implementation, and monitoring progress towards the goal of  
19 equitable education for all Delaware students.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware State Parent Advisory Council (DESPAC) be reconstituted with  
21 its original purpose, structure, and supports, and must do the following:

22 (1) DESPAC will serve as the statewide parent or stakeholder advisory group for Title I programs.

23 (2) DESPAC will be self-governing.

24 (3) DESPAC will monitor, advise, and report on status and progress towards equitable education for Title I  
25 students.

26 (4) DESPAC will collaborate with the Department of Education (DOE), on the development of Delaware's  
27 Title I annual plan, and provide statements on the Title I plan's adequacy and implementation, as well as other  
28 initiatives intended to enhance equity for Title I students related to adequacy and progress.

29 (5) DESPAC will renew Delaware's Title I strategic plan.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a stakeholder Educational Equity Council will be formed for the purpose of  
31 providing family and stakeholder input for a variety of purposes related to educational equity and be composed of the  
32 following voting members:

33 (1) Four members appointed by DESPAC.

34 (2) One family member representative appointed by GACEC

35 (3) One family or advocate member representative appointed by SESPAC

36 (4) One family or advocate member representative appointed by GACEL.

37 (5) Two community representatives nominated by civil rights organizations actively engaged in education  
38 equity issues.

39 (6) A maximum of 2 community representatives nominated by not-for-profit community organizations  
40 engaged in education equity issues.

41 (7) A maximum of 3 family members, self-nominated, whose students are impacted equity issues.

42 (8) Family or advocate stakeholder voting members as authorized by the stakeholder Educational Equity  
43 Council governance agreement.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Educational Equity Council will additionally be composed of the following  
45 non-voting members:

46 (1) One representative of the Delaware State Education Association appointed by the President of the  
47 Delaware State Education Association.

48 (2) One representative of the Governor's Office, appointed by the Governor.

49 (3) One LEA administrator of Title I programs appointed by DASA.

50 (4) One LEA administrator of Title III programs appointed by DASA.

51 (5) One LEA administrator of programs for students with disabilities appointed by DASA.

52 (6) One SEA administrator of Title I programs appointed by DOE.

53 (7) One SEA administrator of Title III programs appointed by DOE.

54 (8) One SEA administrator of programs for students with disabilities appointed by DOE.  
55 (9) One representative of the Secretary of Education appointed by the Secretary.  
56 (10) One District CFO who has a significant understanding of the funding system impacting equity. appointed  
57 by the Delaware Association of School Business officers.

58 (11) A member of the School Boards Association appointed by the President of the School Boards  
59 Association.

60 (12) A member of the Delaware Chief School Officers appointed by the Delaware Chief School Officers.

61 (13) A representative of the Office of Management and Budget, appointed by the Director of the Office of  
62 Management and Budget.

63 (14) Other non-voting members as authorized by the stakeholder educational equity work group's governance  
64 agreement.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Educational Equity Council group must do the following:

66 (1) Be a self-governing organization.

67 (2) Approve members nominated for voting membership.

68 (3) Provide oversight for the education ombudsperson program.

69 (4) Develop renewal proposals for the ombudsperson program and finalize the proposals in collaboration with  
70 DOE.

71 (5) Appoint members to serve as majority of the ombudsperson RFP review and selection group.

72 (6) Provide recommendations to the ombudsperson program to improve effectiveness.

73 (7) Review existing equity data, make recommendations and provide public statements regarding Delaware's  
74 status and progress towards educational equity.

75 (8) Develop and request additional reports related to educational equity.

76 (9) Identify and request additional data elements necessary for effective analysis of educational equity  
77 progress.

78 (10) Recommend and provide public comment on the status and needed improvements to the public  
79 dissemination of educational equity data and other information.

80 (11) Develop and provide other recommendations and public comment that enhance educational equity.

81 (12) Follow through with any other stated responsibilities under the Delaware Code.

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the staff support for the stakeholder Educational Equity Council shall be  
83 provided by the DOE including requested data and reports.

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the stakeholder Educational Equity Council shall select a chairperson from  
85 among its voting members.

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the stakeholder Educational Equity Council shall report its findings and  
87 recommendations to the members of the Delaware General Assembly on an annual basis beginning January 5, 2023.

SYNOPSIS

This concurrent resolution reconstitutes DESPAC and establishes a stakeholder educational equity Council to provide independent oversight for the ombudsman program, and to support the effectiveness of Delaware's data system for the purpose of enhancing educational equity