

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND URGING SUPPORT OF IDAHO STUDENTS
LEARNING IN THE ARTS.

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

WHEREAS, prosperous Idaho communities and profitable Idaho businesses
require an educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, by 2018, 61% of all jobs in Idaho will require postsecondary
education, growing at twice the rate of jobs that do not require postsec-
ondary education; and

WHEREAS, state and national technological and industrial leadership in
global business depends upon ongoing creativity; and

WHEREAS, attainment of that leadership requires a high level of prepa-
ration in reading, writing, speaking, mathematics, sciences, literature,
history and the arts; and

WHEREAS, study in the arts improves reading and language skills, math-
ematical skills, critical thinking skills, social skills, motivation to
learn and supports a positive school environment; and

WHEREAS, arts learning contributes to developing the creative capaci-
ties at the core of innovations that are vital to our economy; and

WHEREAS, students who took four years of arts coursework outperformed
their peers who took one-half year or less of arts coursework by 58 points on
the verbal portion and 38 points on the math portion of the SAT; and

WHEREAS, Idahoans are committed to our children's education; and

WHEREAS, Idaho parents, educators and other community-minded citizens
demonstrate generosity of service and spirit toward the education of our
children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular
Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives
and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature supports sequen-
tial learning in the arts curriculum and the use of arts to enhance learning
across the academic curriculum and encourages sharing resources across
rural communities that have limited access to arts programs and that the Leg-
islature supports utilizing innovative instructional modalities to enhance
arts learning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the State of Idaho
supports the use of local resources such as arts organizations, teaching
artists, volunteers and interns to enhance arts learning.