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A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to support national standards for educator ethics and a national clearinghouse to strengthen state efforts in the reporting, screening, and sharing of critical information relative to educator misconduct.

WHEREAS, teachers are entrusted with the care and supervision of minor children away from the direct observation of parents, and

WHEREAS, the student-teacher relationship is necessarily built on a child's trust and respect for an adult in authority, and

WHEREAS, parents and the community rely upon school district officials and individual educators to protect the integrity of that relationship, and

WHEREAS, educators rely upon the state and school districts to promote respect for the teaching profession through the timely investigation and disposition of allegations of misconduct, assurance of due process, and elimination from the teaching ranks of those who bring discredit to the profession, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the Congress of the United States is urged to support the passage of laws establishing ethical standards for professional educators and to support a national clearinghouse to provide for the reporting of data concerning educator misconduct. A national database is necessary to promote the timely sharing of

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critical information among states and to provide for the safety and welfare of students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.