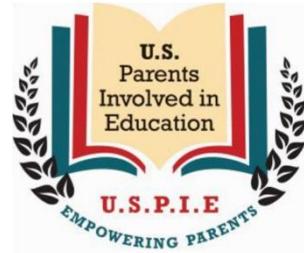




WHY STOP FED ED?

A Message for Employers



IT IS COSTLY AND INEFFECTIVE

FED ED oversees about \$285 billion taxpayer dollars, funds 9% of K-12 education and controls 100% of the program. Costs have risen over 400% since 1979. Businesses want to see their sales tax dollars used effectively and there is much wasteful spending in Education. Since FedEd was formed, there has been over \$1 trillion in spending with little improvement in test scores and many of the same problems as when the "Nation At Risk" report first came out in 1983.

If the Department of Education is closed, how will that help small businesses?

Whether in elementary school, middle/junior high, or in senior high- students are supposed to be the clients- not big government or big business. We should be making decisions and evaluating our programs based on their needs. The small business community is the backbone of America and has an interest in quality education, but our schools were not created to serve business and certainly not to breed crony-capitalism. Our educational policies must be based on local control, and not top-down government that big business has been pushing.

Our American education system has traditionally been developed on the premise that a child's past did not have to determine his future. But the practice of collecting data from pre-school through college/career (P-20W data systems), and then using that data to peg children into selecting their career paths before they even begin high school is flat out wrong. It is improper to expect 12-13 year old students to make such life decisions, and basing their educational pathways on uninformed choices. We need a society that has well-rounded education that includes the creative arts and music, and should not be limited to the utilitarian skills that one merely needs to do a job.

Education should not be about mere workforce development, and children are more than just being cogs in the planned managed economy. USPIE believes that if real education quality can be restored, that students will be more solutions-oriented workers that will result in better innovation. There is very little true critical thinking skills in customer service today, and students are being geared up towards being "good little worker bees". Ultimately, we do not believe that slippery slope of the private-public partnership of crony capitalism and corporate-elitism bodes society well. We support a restoration of a Public Education system where local control prevails, and where parents are empowered. Businesses will then see a better return on their investments.

END FED ED to EMPOWER EMPLOYERS

References and further information found at USPIE.org