

State of Vermont
House of Representatives
Montpelier, Vermont



House Resolution

H.R. 12

House resolution requesting Congress to restore fiscal year 2013 Head Start funding and to not reduce funding further in fiscal year 2014

Offered by: Representatives Sharpe of Bristol, Champion of Bennington, Christie of Hartford, Donovan of Burlington, Miller of Shaftsbury, Peltz of Woodbury, and Stuart of Brattleboro

Whereas, Head Start is a federal program established in 1965 as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty, and this program promotes the school readiness of children from birth to five years of age from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development, and

Whereas, Head Start provides comprehensive services to enrolled children and their families, including health, nutrition, and social services, and

Whereas, since 1965, nationally, nearly 30 million children and their families have been the recipients of comprehensive Head Start services, and

Whereas, in Vermont, Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc.; Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity; Central Vermont Community Action Agency; United Children's Services of Bennington County, Inc.; Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc.; Brattleboro Town School District; and Rutland Community Programs, Inc. receive grants to administer Head Start programs, and

Whereas, the implementation as of March 1, 2013 of the federal budgetary reductions, in accordance with Section 302 of Pub.L. No. 112-25, known as the federal sequestration process, has affected nearly all federal programs, including Head Start, and

Whereas, prior to the implementation of federal sequestration, Vermont's Head Start recipient organizations were scheduled to receive a total of \$15,084,203.00 in federal fiscal year 2013, and the sequestration resulted in a reduction of \$794,937.00, and

Whereas, the Agency of Human Services is anticipating a potential additional sequestration-required reduction of 7.3 percent in Vermont's Head Start funding in federal fiscal year 2014, and

Whereas, these sequestration reductions are limiting the funds available for an extremely important program that has long-term benefits for the children enrolled in Head Start, their families, and society at large, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body requests that Congress restore the federal funding for Head Start to its original federal fiscal year 2013 level, and that no further reductions be made to the Head Start budget for federal fiscal year 2014, and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to President Barack Obama, House Speaker John Boehner, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.