

**RESOLUTION OF THE ALBEMARLE COUNTY
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)
REGARDING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education provides critical funding that supports essential programs for students with disabilities, ensuring their right to a free appropriate public education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA);

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education is charged with the enforcement of federal civil rights laws such as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act that protect students with disabilities from discrimination and guaranteeing these students with equal educational opportunities;

WHEREAS, state and local education agencies rely substantially on federal funding and guidance administered through the United States Department of Education to maintain essential special education services, professional development, and specialized resources that support children with disabilities;

WHEREAS, the closure or significant reduction of the roles and functions of the United States Department of Education would result in diminished oversight, accountability, and equitable resource allocation for students with disabilities, negatively impacting their academic success and well-being;

BE IT RESOLVED on March 11, 2025, by the Albemarle County Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) strongly opposes any effort by the current Presidential administration or Congress to close or substantially reduce the United States Department of Education, recognizing that such action would compromise the rights, protections, and educational outcomes for students with disabilities in Albemarle County and nationwide;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all federal, state, and local officials to affirm their commitment to maintaining robust federal oversight, funding, and enforcement mechanisms through the United States Department of Education to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all children, including those with disabilities.