

What Can Congress and The Federal Government Do To Promote Quality Online Learning Opportunity For All Students?

WHAT CONGRESS AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CAN DO...

...AND HOW IT CAN BE DONE

- 1.** Reward states that ensure the full spectrum of online learning opportunities for students, including both full-time and supplemental
- 2.** Promote a common core of national standards that are internationally benchmarked
- 3.** Provide incentives for portability of credits among institutions and across state lines
- 4.** Encourage shift by states toward adopting digital curriculum
- 5.** Assist states/districts in moving away from funding based on seat-time toward mastery learning
- 6.** Support pre-service/in-service training for teachers in how to teach online
- 7.** Point to online learning for data systems that use real-time data to drive instruction and accountability
- 8.** Finish the job of ensuring ubiquitous access to the Internet

Make removal of online learning enrollment caps and restrictions a condition and requirement for states to receive grants from US ED Office of Innovation and Improvement

Express Congress's support for the work of Council of Chief School Officers and NGA in this effort; direct US ED to invest OII and other grant dollars in supporting move to national standards; integrate into NCLB reauthorization

Direct Department of Education to focus a portion of OII and other grant dollars on district/state models of portability

Express Congress's support for moves by Texas, California and others toward adoption of digital curriculum; direct US ED to invest OII and other grant dollars in helping other states move in this direction

Integrate mastery concept into Title I requirements and NCLB Reauthorization

Specify that ESEA Title IIA and IID funds include training all teachers to teach online; Higher Education Act

Ensure that Race to the Top and other ARRA efforts for data systems reference models from online learning and virtual schools

Renew Congressional attention to the E-Rate with 21st century focus on broadband for online learning and virtual schools eligibility; showcase Department of Commerce ARRA/BTOP efforts involving education