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William J. Kerr

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## The National Educational Association of the United States, Report

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## THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 27, 1906.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SOUTHWICK, from the Committee on Education, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 10501.]

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 10501) to incorporate the National Education Association of the United States, report the same back to the House with the following amendments:

On page 2, line 15, change "hard" to "ard."

On page 3, line 9, strike out "Mrs."

In line 16, same page, after "corporate," insert "of the District of Columbia."

On page 4, line 10, after "Education," insert "the powers and duties."

In line 11, same page, after "departments," insert "and of the National Council of Education;" in same line, after "changed," insert "or abolished."

On page 5, line 16, change "pear" to "year."

On page 7, line 23, after "association," insert "present at any annual meeting."

On page 9, line 8, after "until," insert "the charter granted by this act shall be accepted by such association at."

In line 9, same page, strike out "appointed to be held thereunder."

In line 16, same page, strike out "adopt," change "shall" to "may," and insert after "to" the words "accept the charter granted by."

In line 17, same page, insert at beginning "this act and adopt."

In line 21, after "thereupon," insert "if the charter granted by this Act be accepted."

On page 10, at end of section 9, add:

*Provided*, That a verified certificate executed by the presiding officer and secretary of such annual meeting showing the acceptance of the charter granted by this Act by the National Educational Association shall be legal evidence of the fact when filed with the recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia: *And provided further*, That in



the event of the failure of the association to accept the charter granted by this Act at said annual meeting, then the charter of the National Educational Association and its corporate existence shall be, and are hereby, extended until the first day of July, nineteen hundred and seven, and at any time before said date its charter may be extended in the manner and form provided by the general corporation law of the District of Columbia.

The following statement explains the provisions of the bill and the reasons for its passage:

The National Educational Association was incorporated under the Revised Statutes, of the District of Columbia by certificate filed February 24, 1886. By the terms of the certificate the existence of the corporation was limited to twenty years. The present corporate existence of the association will therefore terminate by limitation on February 24, 1906, unless extended.

In order to provide for this contingency the association at its annual meeting held in July, 1904, directed that action be taken to continue the corporate existence of the association. In accordance therewith the trustees of the association and their counsel prepared a proposed charter in the form of an act of Congress, which was submitted to and approved by the association at its annual meeting in July, 1905, after having been previously submitted in printed form to all the members and unanimously approved by the board of trustees and the board of directors of the association. The charter so approved is embodied in the present bill.

The bill in its character and general form is similar to the act passed by Congress incorporating the Carnegie Institute (Stat. L., 58th Cong., ch. 1828) and the act to incorporate the General Education Board (Stat. L., 57th Cong., ch. 91).

The bill in detail embodies the provisions of the present constitution and standing resolutions of the National Educational Association, and provides for the continuance of the present system of organization and administration, and for the continuance in office of the present officers of the association until their successors are elected.

The bill also provides that the "permanent fund" of the present association, which represents the accumulated savings of the members of the association during many years, when transferred to the corporation created by the bill, shall be held for and applied to the specific educational purposes of such corporation, under carefully guarded limitations, subject to the existing liabilities of the present association, and that an annual report of the property and expenditures of the corporation shall be filed with the Commissioner of Education of the United States. Incorporation by act of Congress rather than under general laws is especially desired by the association in order that any diversion of this fund from the purpose for which it was created may be rendered impossible.

The purposes of the association are to elevate the character and advance the interests of the profession of teaching, and to promote the cause of education in the United States. The association was organized in 1857, and during the forty-eight years of its existence, both before and since its incorporation in 1886, the association, as a body and through its council, departments, and committees, has been actively engaged in the furtherance of these objects and has contributed largely to the improved methods and increased efficiency of schools and other educational institutions throughout the country.



The association is the most widely representative educational society in this country, and its membership, which numbers between 12,000 and 15,000 individuals, includes the Commissioner of Education of the United States, the superintendents of education of all the States and of most, if not all, of the important cities, the principals and teachers of high schools and of public schools generally, and members of the faculties of most of the colleges and universities, representing every State and Territory in the United States.

In view of the importance of the objects which the association represents and the public service which it has rendered in elevating the profession of teaching and in promoting the cause of education and of its national and representative character, the Committee on Education recommend that the corporate existence of the association be continued, its permanent fund effectually safeguarded, and its future usefulness permanently assured by the passage of the bill as amended.



