

MRA 2025 Advocacy Alerts

February 12, 2025

Michigan Rehabilitation Association Alert Regarding US Dept of Education

Take action today. Plans are afoot to dismantle, eliminate, and/ or defund the US Dept. of Education. Such plans, if carried out, will have devastating effects on youth and adults with disabilities and on those who serve them. Contact your US Representative at [Find Your Representative](#) and your US Senators at [Contacting U.S. Senators](#). Complete the contact forms and drop the below message into their contact formats. Modify or personalize as appropriate. Please act today!

Subject: In Opposition to the Elimination or Defunding of the Department of Education As your constituent, I urge you to oppose any legislation or executive order that seeks to eliminate or defund the U.S. Department of Education. Such actions would have devastating consequences for individuals with disabilities who rely on the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) and state vocational rehabilitation (VR) programs to secure and maintain employment. The Rehabilitation Services Administration is currently a part of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services Administration within this Department. These offices work closely together to ensure the successful transition of disabled school youth into adult employment. Their coordination is required by both the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Rehabilitation Act (WIOA, Title IV).

State VR programs, funded through RSA grants, provide essential support-including job training, assistive technology, and career counseling to help people with disabilities contribute to the workforce and live independently. Eliminating or reducing this funding would strip away these critical resources, increasing unemployment and economic instability for millions. Eliminating assistance for individuals with disabilities to work increases their dependence upon the government for support. Many, many youth and adults with disabilities in your state and district will be affected.

I urge you to reject any proposals that would dismantle the Department of Education and jeopardize the future of individuals who rely on its assistance in being contributing members of society. This would only increase dependence upon government benefits for support.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue.

[Your name and organization]