



## Private School Vouchers (ESAs)

Nevada Legislative Session 2017 - Education

Education Savings Accounts, otherwise known as vouchers, provide parents roughly \$5,100 to attend private school, but have no restrictions based on income level, special education status, or other factors, meaning even wealthy families can receive assistance. The Governor is proposing \$60 million for ESAs – funds needed by our public schools.

### Why Are Vouchers the Wrong Choice for Nevadans?

#### Not accessible for low-income families:

- Private schools cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000, so families would have to subsidize several thousands of dollars out of their own pocket per student, per year.
- Most private schools are located in Summerlin and Henderson and don't provide transportation. They also don't offer free or reduced lunch to students.
- Additional costs include uniforms, supplies, application fees and other materials that our families don't have to pay in the public school system.

#### Vouchers discriminate:

ESA vouchers allow public funds to be used in private schools that can discriminate on the basis of religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and disabilities.

Examples of local private school restrictions:

- "students must 'refrain from participating in....homosexuality or other sexual perversions.' refuse admission to any student for simply "supporting or condoning . . . homosexual activity."
- Many of these schools refuse to accommodate students with special needs, and will not accept a student unless they adhere to a certain faith.

#### Out of reach for rural communities:

- Many rural communities, like Mesquite and Boulder City either don't have private schools or don't have any that serve high school students.
- Rural public schools have scarce resources, losing even 20 students to ESA's could cost a school \$100,000.

***ESA Vouchers - Not for low-income students, not for minority students, not for special education students, not for rural students. ESAs – NOT For Nevada!***

Call your legislators tell them to Vote No on SB506 and let them know  
#VouchersHurt. Let's keep #PublicMoneyPublicSchools