

# Oppose Including \$100 Billion Tax Credit Voucher Scheme in ‘Reconciliation’



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**The expanded Educational Choice for Children Act introduced in the 119th Congress would divert \$100 billion in taxpayer money to private and religious schools. No matter the name, this bill creates a federal voucher program.**

## HOW IT WORKS

- ▶ Individuals and corporations give money to an **intermediary** called a scholarship-granting organization (SGO).
- ▶ **SGOs pay tuition** at private and religious schools.
- ▶ Individual and corporate donors get **dollar-for-dollar tax credits** worth far more than the usual deduction for charitable contributions.
- ▶ People can also offload stocks to SGOs and **evade taxes on capital gains**.
- ▶ Voters nationwide have **rejected voucher schemes** every time they're on the ballot—17 times. The most recent votes, in November 2024, were in Colorado, Kentucky, and Nebraska.

## PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- ▶ Public schools educate **9 out of 10 Americans**.
- ▶ Voucher-inspired schemes redirect funds from public to private schools that are **not accountable** to the public.
- ▶ **Special needs students** who attend private schools lose important legal rights and protections.
- ▶ Vouchers weaken public education, especially in the **rural communities** where 20 percent of our students live and public schools are the economic center.

## REAL-LIFE IMPACT

- ▶ Numerous studies have found that voucher-inspired schemes **do not improve student performance**.
- ▶ America cannot afford to fund **two education systems**—one private and one public—on the taxpayer's dime.
- ▶ Taxpayer dollars should go to public schools **open to all students**, not private schools that can pick and choose their students.