

TALKING POINTS

- No matter what we call them ("Education Savings Accounts," "Education Scholarship Trust Funds," etc.), private school voucher schemes send public money to private schools that can be held to lower standards, discriminate in admissions, hire non-certified teachers, and teach curricula that has little oversight.
- Arguing that "the money follows the child" is deceptive. This is an intentional misrepresentation of how school funding works, and the money cannot "follow" all children when private schools can pick, choose, & discriminate against students.
- Providing public funds to schools that use religious curricula is likely an unconstitutional overlap between government and religion.
- In 2019, the Justice Dept's Office of Legal Counsel concluded that *prohibiting* the use of public funds for religious activities was Constitutional.

VOUCHER LEGISLATION & HOW VOUCHERS COST SC STUDENTS

FACTS & FIGURES

- Voucher program evaluations in LA, IN, WA, & DC showed students attending participating private schools perform significantly worse than peers in public school.¹
- In one study, students with disabilities in voucher programs experienced an average learning loss in English language arts each year when compared with students without special education identification.²
- In Florida, voucher schools took millions in public funds for kids not even attending those schools.³
- In some state voucher programs, such as WI, students with disabilities have been systematically excluded from admission by education service providers.⁴
- National data show private schools are more segregated than similarly situated public schools and enroll higher populations of white students compared to public schools.⁵