



## **Resolution Opposing “Let MI Kids Learn” Voucher Initiatives**

**Whereas**, the Michigan Constitution states, “No public monies or property shall be appropriated or paid or any public credit utilized, by the legislature or any other political subdivision or agency of the state directly or indirectly to aid or maintain any private, denominational or other nonpublic, preelementary, elementary, or secondary school;” and

**Whereas**, vetoed House Bills 4504 and 4505, and vetoed Senate Bills 687 and 688 conferred an eventual \$1 billion per year in unconstitutional tax credits to be used for an unconstitutional, backdoor private school voucher program; and

**Whereas**, letters vetoing those bills pointedly stated, “Redirecting public school dollars for private gain is not only ineffective, it has been roundly rejected by Michigan voters, with more than 69% voting “no” on a proposal that would have allowed the use of tuition vouchers for nonpublic schools,” and “Simply put, our schools cannot provide the high-quality education our kids deserve if we turn private schools into tax shelters for the wealthy;” and

**Whereas**, in response to the vetoes, tuition voucher advocates have launched the “Let MI Kids Learn” and “Student Opportunity Scholarship” statutory initiatives to place those bills into law; and

**Whereas**, under Michigan law, the Legislature can bypass Michigan citizens’ ability to vote on a statutory initiative that collects only 340,047 signatures from the more than 8 million registered voters.

### **Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows:**

1. That the Washtenaw ISD Board of Education opposes the “Let MI Kids Learn” and “Student Opportunity Scholarship” statutory initiatives being solicited by the organization called “Let MI Kids Learn” and urges community members to decline to sign the petitions for the initiatives; and
2. That the Washtenaw ISD Board of Education calls upon the Legislature to reject the statutory initiatives in the event they are presented to the Legislature; and
3. That the Washtenaw ISD Board of Education calls upon the Legislature, in the event they do not reject the statutory initiatives, to refrain from voting on them, to allow the citizens of Michigan to vote on the matter; and
4. That a copy of this resolution be sent to: (1) all elected members of the Michigan House of Representatives and Michigan State Senate who represent the Washtenaw Intermediate School District, (2) the leadership of the Michigan House of Representatives and Michigan Senate, and (3) to the Michigan Association of School Boards.



**Therefore, be it further resolved** that, on this twenty-sixth day of the month of April in the year 2022, the Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education adopts this resolution.

AYES:           Members: R. Stephen Olsen, Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Theresa Saunders, Don Garrett, Jr.

NAYS:           Members: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT:       Members: \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Mary Jane Tramontin  
Secretary, Board of Education