

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION S

November 12, 1998, Introduced by Senators SCHUETTE, GOUGEON and ROGERS and referred to the Committee on Education.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending section 2 of article VIII, to allow state financial aid to support the attendance of low income children who reside in urban areas at nonreligious, nonpublic schools.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to allow state financial aid to support the attendance of low income children who reside in urban areas at nonreligious, nonpublic schools, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

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ARTICLE VIII

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Sec. 2. The legislature shall maintain and support a system

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of free public elementary and secondary schools as defined by

1 law. Every school district shall provide for the education of
2 its pupils without discrimination as to religion, creed, race,
3 color or national origin.

4 ~~No~~ EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, NO public
5 monies or property shall be appropriated or paid or any public
6 credit utilized, by the legislature or any other political subdi-
7 vision or agency of the state directly or indirectly to aid or
8 maintain any private, denominational or other nonpublic,
9 pre-elementary, elementary, or secondary school. ~~No~~ EXCEPT AS
10 OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, NO payment, credit, tax bene-
11 fit, exemption or deductions, tuition voucher, subsidy, grant or
12 loan of public monies or property shall be provided, directly or
13 indirectly, to support the attendance of any student or the
14 employment of any person at any such nonpublic school or at any
15 location or institution where instruction is offered in whole or
16 in part to such nonpublic school students. The legislature may
17 provide for the transportation of students to and from any
18 school.

19 THE LEGISLATURE MAY PROVIDE FOR AN EDUCATIONAL VOUCHER
20 SYSTEM TO SUPPORT THE ATTENDANCE OF LOW INCOME SCHOOL-AGE CHIL-
21 DREN WHO RESIDE IN CITIES WITH A POPULATION OF AT LEAST 750,000
22 AT NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY RELIGIOUS
23 GROUP OR ORGANIZATION.

24 Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be sub-
25 mitted to the people of the state at the next general election in
26 the manner provided by law.