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VOUCHER LITIGATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Senate Bill 402 (hereafter, "the budget bill") in July 2013; and

WHEREAS, the budget bill includes a provision appropriating \$10 million to provide private school vouchers;

WHEREAS, the fiscal note prepared for an earlier version of the voucher legislation indicates the General Assembly's intent to increase annual appropriations for the program to \$50 million per year;

WHEREAS, the voucher program created in the budget bill does not require participating private schools to provide students with the opportunity to receive a sound basic education, as required by the N.C. Constitution;

WHEREAS, the voucher program created in the budget bill does not require participating private schools to engage in non-discriminatory admissions practices;

WHEREAS, the voucher program requires the State Board of Education to reduce funding to each local board of education in an amount equal to the local board's per pupil allocation for average daily membership multiplied by the number of students who have received vouchers and were enrolled in the local board's schools during the prior semester;

WHEREAS, reducing funding to public schools to fund a private school voucher program, particularly in the wake of substantial cuts to public education funding during the previous five years, will significantly impair local boards' ability to ensure that students have the opportunity to receive a sound basic education, as required by the N.C. Constitution;

WHEREAS, the voucher program created in the budget bill uses public funds for a non-public purpose, in violation of the N.C. Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery County Board of Education goes on record as communicating that these actions negatively impact all public school LEA's in the state of North Carolina. Further, the Superintendent is authorized to communicate our concerns and frustrations with the current course of action that harms public schools in our state and that he implore elected officials to consult with school personal about the impacts of certain legislative actions on the school system BEFORE they are passed into law.

Adopted this 3rd day of February, 2014.

Chairperson

Superintendent