

VOTE NO ON QUESTION 3 IN ATLANTIC CITY

On November 8, Atlantic City should vote no on taxpayer-funded vouchers for private schools and tax credits for home schooling.

YOU SHOULD VOTE NO BECAUSE:

- **School Vouchers Don't Improve Student Achievement.** Studies conducted on numerous voucher programs prove that vouchers just don't work.
- **Private School Vouchers and Tax Credits for Home-Schooling Will Exacerbate Rather Than Help the City's Budget Crisis.** In Indiana, for example, the state recently announced that its voucher program resulted in a deficit of \$53 million, disproving its claims that the program actually saved the state money.
- **School Vouchers Do Not Improve Opportunities for Kids from Low Income Families.** Voucher payments often do not cover the entire cost of private school tuition or other mandatory fees, meaning that only families with the money to cover the cost of the rest of the tuition, uniforms, transportation, books, and other supplies can actually use the vouchers.
- **School Vouchers Increase Segregation.** Studies of voucher programs across the country reveal that racial segregation is higher in private voucher schools.
- **School Vouchers Strip Students of Important Rights and Protections.** Students using a voucher to attend private schools lose many of the rights and protections they would otherwise have in public schools—such as rights for students with disabilities—and are also stripped of their First Amendment, due process, and other constitutional and statutory rights offered to them in public schools.
- **School Vouchers Especially Fail Students with Disabilities.** Vouchers place students in private schools that do not have to provide the same special education services to students that public schools must provide and they don't have to follow the same inclusionary practices as public schools, allowing students with disabilities to be isolated from their nondisabled peers.
- **School Vouchers Harm Religious Liberty.** The New Jersey Constitution specifically prohibits taxpayer dollars from supporting religion, making such a program constitutionally suspect. Atlantic City currently has only two private schools, both of which are religious, which means Atlantic City taxpayers would be paying for others' religious education.
- **Public Funds Should Fund Public Schools.** Taxpayer dollars should fund schools that are open and non-discriminatory in their acceptance of all students. They should not be funneled to voucher programs to fund a few select students. Atlantic City would better serve our students by using these funds to make the public schools stronger.