



## **Educational Choice for Children Act** **(S. 120 and H.R. 531)**

The *Educational Choice for Children Act* (ECCA) was re-introduced in January 2023 by Senators Bill Cassidy (LA), Tim Scott (SC), and 13 other original cosponsors; and by Representatives Adrian Smith (NE-3), Burgess Owens (UT-4), and 25 other original cosponsors.

Federal scholarship tax credit: Non-refundable 100 percent credit to incentivize individual and corporate contributions to non-profit scholarship granting organizations (SGOs): *private* donations – not federal money – up to \$10 billion annually to enable parents to choose the best school or education service for up to two million children. There is no role for the U.S. Department of Education and no increase in federal spending.

Scholarship use: SGOs determine the individual amount of scholarship awards, and uses include tuition, tutoring for learning loss, education technology, and special needs services. As an example, students could remain in public schools in more rural areas while using scholarships for purposes other than tuition.

Eligible students: K-12 students from both low-income and middle-class households are eligible in every state and any school setting, including homeschool; eligibility is for households with incomes up to 300 percent of the median income level by region determined by Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

Religious liberty and private school autonomy: Prohibits governmental control, mandates, or encroachment over SGOs that receive contributions or schools that enroll scholarship recipients.

Commitment to America. The ECCA is the [legislative means](#) in the House GOP [Commitment](#) to “expand parental choice so more than a million students can receive the education their parents know is best.”

Polling. Polling on school choice issues has consistently shown robust majority support transcending race, ethnicity and political affiliation. In September 2022, the firm OnMessage, Inc., [polled](#) 1,000 likely voters (3.1% margin of error) that showed percentage support for school choice at or better than 2-to-1 margins: Republicans (81-11), Independents (60-32), African-Americans (63-31), Latinos (66-28), rural voters (67-22) and adults with school-age children (68-23). Democrats (49-42) also favored school choice.

Coalition Support. Invest in Education Coalition, American Federation for Children, Heritage Action for America, Excel in Education, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Agudath Israel of America; Orthodox Union, Association of Christian Schools International, Freedom Works, Catholic Vote, ParentalRights.org, Home School Legal Defense Association, Defense of Freedom Institute, Council on American Private Education (CAPE), Children’s Scholarship Fund, Catholic Education Partners, IWF – Education Freedom Center, American Association of Christian Schools and many state-based organizations.

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