Invest in Education Coalition



Educational Choice for Children Act H.R.531 and S.120

The Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) was re-introduced in January 2023 by Senators Bill Cassidy (LA) and Tim Scott (SC) and by Representatives Adrian Smith (NE-3) and Burgess Owens (UT-4). There are 29 Senate <u>co-sponsors</u> and 148 House <u>co-sponsors</u> of this legislation, including House Speaker Mike Johnson, which is the most congressional support ever for a bill to enact parental choice in education.

<u>Federal scholarship tax credit</u>. Non-refundable 100 percent credit to encourage individual and corporate contributions to not-for-profit scholarship granting organizations (SGOs); that is, private donations of up to \$10 billion annually to enable parents to choose the best, most suitable school or education service for approximately two million children. There is no role for the U.S. Department of Education and no new federal spending nor mandates on states and school districts.

<u>Eligible students</u>. Students in grades kindergarten through 12 from both low-income and middle-class households are eligible in every state and every school setting, including homeschool; that is, children in households with incomes up to 300 percent of the median gross income level by region as <u>determined</u> by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Scholarship use. SGOs determine the individual amount of scholarship awards and uses, including tuition, tutoring, education technology, on-line courses, and special needs services, e.g., students could remain in district public schools in more rural areas while using scholarships for education needs other than tuition or to cover homeschool expenses.

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

"Commitment to America". The <u>legislative means</u> in the House Republican <u>Commitment</u> to "expand <u>parental choice</u> so that more than a million students can receive the education their parents know is best."

Public Support. RealClear Opinion Research poll in December 2023, which surveyed 1,000 registered voters, found that candidates' support of school choice makes voters across-the-board more likely to support them. 76% of voters overall say they are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports school choice. Support includes: 86% of Republicans, 77% of Democrats, and 67% of Independents. The Yes. Every Kid. organization poll in September 2023 found that 66% of voters support scholarship tax credits. This includes: 80% of parents, 75% percent of Republicans, 65% of Independents, and 65% of Democrats. School choice enjoys more across-the-board voter support of any public policy issue over time. In October 2023, the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means conducted a hearing that prominently featured the ECCA.

<u>Coalition Support</u>. There are more than 130 national and state-based organizations and influencers that support and have endorsed the ECCA.

Updated: February 29, 2024

Congressional Co-Sponsors for the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) (118th Congress – S.120; H.R.531)

US Senate (30)

Sen. Katie Britt (R-AL)

Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)

Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)

Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)

Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)

Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL)

Sen. Mike Braun (R-IN)

Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)

Sen. Joni Ernst (R-IA)

Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)

*Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA)

Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA)

Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO)

Sen. Eric Schmitt (R-MO)

Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)

Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)

Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT)

Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC)

Sen. Ted Budd (R-NC)

Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)

Sen. Pete Ricketts (R-NE)

Sen. J.D. Vance (R-OH)

Sen. Markwayne Mullin (R-OK)

Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC)

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)

Whip John Thune (R-SD)

Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)

Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX)

Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY)

Sen. Cynthia M. Lummis (R-WY)

*Lead Sponsor

Congressional Co-Sponsors for the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) (118th Congress – S.120; H.R.531)

US House of Representatives (148)

Alabama

Rep. Jerry Carl (R-AL-1) Rep. Barry Moore (R-AL-2) Rep. Mike D. Rogers (R-AL-3) Rep. Robert B. Aderholt (R-AL-4) Rep. Dale W. Strong (R-AL-5) Rep. Gary J. Palmer (R-AL-6)

Arizona

Rep. Debbie Lesko (R-AZ-8) Rep. Juan Ciscomani (R-AZ-6)

Arkansas

Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR-3)

California

Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-CA-1) Rep. Kevin Kiley (R-CA-3) CA Rep. David Valadao (R-CA-22) Rep. Young Kim (R-CA-39) Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA-41) Rep. Michelle Steel (R-CA-45)

Colorado

Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO-3) Rep. Ken Buck (R-CO-4) Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO-5)

Florida

Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL-1) Rep. Neal P. Dunn (R-FL-2) Rep. Kat Cammack (R-FL-3) Rep. Aaron Bean (R-FL-4) Rep. John Rutherford (R-FL-5) Rep. Michael Waltz (R-FL-6) Rep. Cory Mills (R-FL-7) Rep. Bill Posey (R-FL-8) Rep. Daniel "Dan" Webster (R-FL-11) Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL-12) Rep. Laurel M. Lee (R-FL-15)

Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL-16) Rep. Greg Steube (R-FL-17)

Rep. C. Scott Franklin (R-FL-18) Rep. Byron Donalds (R-FL-19)

Georgia

Rep. Earl L. "Buddy" Carter (R-GA-1) Rep. Drew Ferguson (R-GA-3) Rep. Rich McCormick (R-GA-6) Rep. Austin Scott (R-GA-8) Rep. Barry Loudermilk (R-GA-11) Rep. Rick Allen (R-GA-12)

Illinois

Rep. Mary Miller (R-IL-15) Rep. Darin LaHood (R-IL-16)

Indiana

Rep. Rudy Yakym (R-IN-2) Rep. Jim Banks (R-IN-3) Rep. James R. Baird (R-IN-4) Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-IN-5) Rep. Greg Pence (R-IN-6) Rep. Larry Bucshon (R-IN-8) Rep. Erin Houchin (R-IN-9)

Iowa

Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA-1) Rep. Ashley Hinson (R-IA-2) Rep. Zachary Nunn (R-IA-3) IA Rep. Randy Feenstra (R-IA-4)

Kansas

Rep. Tracey Mann (R-KS-1) Rep. Jake LaTurner (R-KS-2)

Kentucky

Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY-2) Rep. Andy Barr (R-KY-6)

Louisiana

Rep. Clay Higgins (R-LA-3) Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA-4) Rep. Julia Letlow (R-LA-5) Rep. Garret Graves (R-LA-6)

Maryland

Rep. Andy Harris (R-MD-1)

Michigan

Rep. Jack Bergman (R-MI-1) Rep. John Moolenaar (R-MI-2) Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-MI-4) Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI-5) Rep. Lisa McClain (R-MI-9) Rep. John James (R-MI-10)

Minnesota

Rep. Brad Finstad (R-MN-1) Rep. Tom Emmer (R-MN-6) Rep. Pete Stauber (R-MN-8)

Mississippi

Rep. Trent Kelly (R-MS-1) Rep. Michael Guest (R-MS-3) Rep. Mike Ezell (R-MS-4)

Missouri

Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO-2) Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO-3) Rep. Mark Alford (R-MO-4)

Nebraska

Rep. Mike Flood (R-NE-1) *Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE-3)

Nevada

Rep. Mark E. Amodei (R-NV-2)

New Jersey

Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ-4) Rep. Thomas "Tom" Kean (R-NJ-7)

Congressional Co-Sponsors for the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) (118th Congress – S.120; H.R.531)

US House of Representatives Cont. (148)

New York

Rep. Anthony D'Esposito (R-NY-4) Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY-11) Rep. Michael "Mike" Lawler (R-NY-17) Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY-21) Rep. Brandon Williams (R-NY-22) Rep. Nicholas A. Langworthy (R-NY-23) Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY-24)

North Carolina

Rep. Gregory Murphy (R-NC-3)

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC-5)

Rep. David Rouzer (R-NC-7)

Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC-9)

Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC-10)

Rep. Chuck Edwards (R-NC-11)

Ohio

Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R-OH-2) Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH-4) Rep. Max Miller (R-OH-7) Rep. Mike Turner (R-OH-10) Rep. Troy Balderson (R-OH-12) Rep. David P. Joyce (R-OH-14) Rep. Mike Carey (R-OH-15)

Oklahoma

Rep. Kevin Hern (R-OK-1) Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK-4)

Oregon

Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR-5)

Pennsylvania

Rep. Dan Meuser (R-PA-9) Rep. Lloyd Smucker (PA-11) Rep. John Joyce (R-PA-13) Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA-14) Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA-16)

South Carolina Rep. Nancy Mace (R-SC-1)

Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC-2) Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-SC-3) Rep. William Timmons (R-SC-4) Rep. Ralph Norman (R-SC-5) Rep. Russell Fry (R-SC-7)

South Dakota

Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At Large)

Tennessee

Rep. Diana Harshbarger (R-TN-1)
Rep. Charles J. "Chuck" Fleischmann (R-TN-3)
Rep. Scott DesJarlais (R-TN-4)
Rep. Mark E. Green (R-TN-7)
Rep. David Kustoff (R-TN-8)

Texas

Rep. August Pfluger (R-TX-11)
Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX-12)
Rep. Ronny Jackson (R-TX-13)
Rep. Randy Weber (R-TX-14)
Rep. Monica De La Cruz (R-TX-15)
Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX-17)
Rep. Troy E. Nehls (R-TX-22)
Rep. Tony Gonzales (R-TX-23)
Rep. Beth Van Duyne (R-TX-24)
Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX-36)

Utah

Rep. Blake Moore (R-UT-1) Rep. Burgess Owens (R-UT-4)

Virginia

Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA-1) Rep. Bob Good (R-VA-5) Rep. Ben Cline (R-VA-6)

Washington

Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA-5)

West Virginia

Rep. Carol Miller (R-WV-1) Rep. Alex Mooney (R-WV-2)

Wisconsin

Rep. Bryan Steil (R-WI-1) Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-WI-3) Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (R-WI-5) Rep. Tom Tiffany (R-WI-7) Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI-8)

Wyoming

Rep. Harriet Hageman (R-WY-At Large)

Endorsements for the Educational Choice for Children Act (ECCA) in the U.S. Congress (S.120, H.R.531)

National Leaders

Hon. Betsy DeVos, former U.S. Secretary of Education

Hon. William Barr, former U.S. Attorney General

Hon. Joseph Lieberman, former U.S. Senator, Connecticut

Hon. Scott Walker, 45th Governor of the State of Wisconsin

Dr. Cade Brumley, Louisiana State Superintendent of Education

Dr. Corey DeAngelis

Gerard Robinson, former Virginia Secretary of Education

Dr. Patrick J. Wolf

Dr. Mick Zais, former Deputy U.S. Secretary of Education

Jim Blew, former Assistant U.S. Secretary of Education

James Bopp, National Conservative Leader

Virginia Walden Ford - national school choice advocate

Hon. Frank Keating, former Governor of Oklahoma

National Organizations

ACE Scholarships ACSI Children's Education Fund (ACEF)

Agudath Israel of America

America First Policy Institute

American Association of Christian Schools

American Federation for Children (AFC)

American Principles Project

Americans for Tax Reform

Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

Catholic Education Partners

CatholicVote

Center for Education Reform

Children's Scholarship Fund

Club for Growth

Coalition for Jewish Values

Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Catholic Education (USCCB)

Council for American Private Education (CAPE)

Defense of Freedom Institute (DFI)

Family Policy Alliance

Foundation for Excellence in Education (ExcelinEd)

Freedom Foundation

FreedomWorks

Heartland Institute

Heritage Action for America

Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA)

Independent Women's Forum - Education Freedom Center

Mountain States Policy Center

Orthodox Union Advocacy

Parental Rights Foundation

Parents Defending Education Action

Partners in Mission

Protect the First

60Plus Association

State-Level Organizations and Leaders

Alabama

Alabama Opportunity Scholarship Fund (AOSF)

Alabama Policy Institute (API)

Scholarships for Kids

Alaska

Alaska Family Action

Arizona

Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO)
Arizona Leadership Foundation
Institute for Better Education
School Tuition Organization 4 Kidz (STO4KIDZ)
Tuition Organization for Private Schools (T.O.P.S. for Kids)

Arkansas

Arkansas Parents for School Choice
The Arkansas Reform Alliance
Laurie Lee, Chair, The Arkansas Reform Alliance

California

California Policy Center Lance Izumi, JD, distinguished school choice leader

Colorado

Hon. Cory Gardner, former U.S. Senator, Colorado
Parents Challenge
Ready Colorado
The Schuck Initiatives Foundation

Delaware

Caesar Rodney Institute

Florida

Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Georgia

Frontline Policy Action
Georgia Center for Opportunity (GCO)
Georgia Leadership Foundation
Idaho

Idaho Family Policy Center

Illinois

Awake Illinois

One Chance Illinois – Action
Unique Learners Unite (ULU)
Ambassador Ronald Gidwitz, former Chairman,
Illinois State Board of Education

Iowa

The Family Leader
Hispanic Alliance for Choice in Education Reform (HACER)
Iowa Alliance for Choice in Education

Kansas

Kansas Family Voice

Kentucky

Commonwealth Educational Opportunities

Commonwealth Policy Center

EdChoice Kentucky

Louisiana

LA Kids Matter

Louisiana Family Forum

Eddie Rispone, Founder – ACE Scholarships Louisiana Rolfe McCollister, Former Member, Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors

Michigan

Great Lakes Education Project
Mackinac Center for Public Policy
Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools (MANS)
St. John Lutheran School

Minnesota

Minnesota Parents Alliance Opportunity for All Kids (OAK)

Mississippi

Empower Mississippi

Missouri

Agudath Israel of Missouri Herzog Tomorrow Foundation

Montana

Frontier Institute

Montana Leadership Foundation

State-Level Organizations and Leaders Cont.

New Hampshire

Children's Scholarship Fund New Hampshire

New Jersey

Excellent Education for Everyone (E3)

Jersey 1st

New York

Empire Center for Public Policy
BISON Children's Scholarship Fund
Families for NYC
Hon. John J. Faso, former Member of Congress, New York
Partnership Schools – New York and Ohio
New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms

Nebraska

Opportunity Scholarships of Nebraska

Nevada

Student Choice Fund of Nevada

North Carolina

Parents for Educational Freedom North Carolina (PEFNC)

Ohio

Center for Christian Virtue School Choice Ohio Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund (NOSF) Ohio Christian Education Network

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs (OCPA) Opportunity Scholarship Fund of Oklahoma Tax Credit Scholarship Program

Pennsylvania

Business Leaders Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS)
Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund
Commonwealth Partners
Commonwealth Children's Choice Fund
Pennsylvania Commonwealth Foundation
David P. Hardy, Co-Founder, Boys' Latin School
Philadelphia, PA
Harrisburg Families United
Pennsylvania Family Council
Pennsylvania Families for Education Choice

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Center for Freedom & Prosperity

South Carolina

Palmetto Family Council

South Dakota

South Dakota Leadership Foundation

Tennessee

Beacon Center of Tennessee
Latinos for Tennessee
Memphis Opportunity Scholarship Trust (MOST)

Texas

San Antonio Coalition for School Choice

Virginia

The Family Foundation of Virginia
Middle Resolution Policy Network
Virginia Education Opportunity Alliance (VEOA)
Hon. Robert W. Goodlatte, former Member of Congress, Virginia

Wisconsin

Hispanics for School Choice School Choice Wisconsin Wisconsin Family Action

The Invest in Education Coalition is leading the national advocacy efforts to pass the ECCA in the U.S. Congress. For more information about the ECCA and the Invest in Education Coalition, please visit www.investineducation.org.