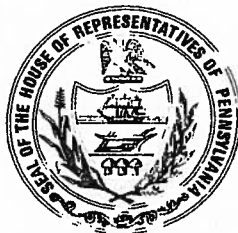


Respond to: CURT SCHRODER, MEMBER
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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

COMMITTEES

GAMING OVERSIGHT - CHAIRMAN
INSURANCE

E-mail: cschrode@pahousegop.com
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Memorandum

Date: June 3, 2011
To: All House Members
From: Curt Schroder, Member 
155th Legislative District
RE: SCHOOL CHOICE LEGISLATION

I plan to introduce two bills providing school choice in Pennsylvania.

The Senate has not yet passed Senate Bill 1 for our consideration in the House. Senate Bill 1 seeks to offer help to students in failing schools as well as giving vouchers to some, depending on income eligibility. However, it does neither task on the comprehensive basis that is needed to reform and improve educational opportunity in the Commonwealth. That is why I am offering the following two bills as alternatives to Senate Bill 1.

1) The Failing Schools Student Rescue Act

This bill would offer a voucher of \$5,000 to all students who attend, or live within the attendance boundary of a persistently lowest achieving school. Whereas Senate Bill 1 establishes income limits for voucher eligibility, all students attending a failing school would receive a school choice option under this legislation. After all, if the school is failing to educate students, all students are endangered regardless of family income and must be given the opportunity for a good education. A school failing in its mission is failing all kids, not just those from low income families.

This bill also expands the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) to the levels passed by the House in House Bill 1330 (Quigley). In addition, Home Schooling families would be eligible for the EITC in recognition of their expenses in educating their children. Public to public school choice is also provided.

2) Opportunity Scholarship and Educational Improvement Tax Credit Act

This bill offers a \$5,000 Opportunity Scholarship to all students in the Commonwealth. It will usher in a system of true school choice. If you believe that parents are best suited to choose the most appropriate means of educating their children, then school choice opportunity should be provided to all families. This bill also includes a public to public school choice option. Like the first bill, the EITC is expanded to mirror House Bill 1330 and will also be available to Home Schooling families.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact my office by calling 783-2520 or e-mail [Carolyn May at cmay@pahousegop.com](mailto:cmay@pahousegop.com).