



**Republican
National
Committee**

Counsel's Office

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PARENTAL SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAMS
AND EDUCATION REFORM**

WHEREAS, every child, regardless of zip code or their parents' income, deserves access to a quality education; and

WHEREAS, a quality education is the best path out of poverty and toward opportunity and equality; and

WHEREAS, too many children today, especially those from low-income or minority families or children with special needs, are trapped in failing schools that government has mandated they attend; and

WHEREAS, school choice programs improve the quality of education for America's students—especially those most in need—by expanding parental choice and driving market competition; and

WHEREAS, allowing parents to choose the best option for their children embraces a free-market approach, as schools will compete to offer the best quality education that fits each child's unique needs, abilities, and learning styles; and

WHEREAS, low income students who received scholarships, including in Washington, D.C., Milwaukee, New York City, and Louisiana, have consistently shown positive results as demonstrated by gold standard studies and these results include higher parental satisfaction, better performance in school, higher high school graduation rates, and higher college attendance rates; and

WHEREAS, parental school choice programs have also been shown to save taxpayers money and even improve nearby public schools through the power of competition; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder have worked to use the legal system to deny poor children access to the school of their choice in Louisiana and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, Republicans in Congress have worked to defend the Opportunity Scholarship Program in Washington, D.C. from attacks by liberal elected officials and special interest groups; therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Republican National Committee encourages elected leaders to work with education advocates of all backgrounds and both parties to expand educational choice and combat misinformation about the true record of success of these powerful pathways toward opportunity; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Republican National Committee encourages state legislatures to create, expand, and protect school choice programs in the interest of parental empowerment and to improve all schools by fostering competition; and, be it therefore finally

RESOLVED, the Republican National Committee encourages Congress to incorporate school choice as an essential element of education policy in order to support new and existing state and local school choice policies.

**As adopted by the Republican National Committee on May 9, 2014.*