



Bill

[HB 1 \(2023\) - School Choice](#)

House Status

[Choice & Innovation Subcommittee](#)

On agenda for January 26, 2023

Senate Status

None

Call to Action

Email members of [Choice & Innovation Subcommittee](#) and urge them to not report favorably on this bill.

Contact Info

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Top Line Talking Point

This is a **BAD** bill.

Universal vouchers and Educational Savings Accounts will do nothing to improve educational outcomes for most students who attend these schools, will defund the public schools that are the overwhelming choice of parents, and most of the voucher money will go to students already in private school.

Supporting Facts & Data

- 61% of students who go to voucher schools return to public school within two years.
- The average student loses a year of learning after two years at a voucher school.
- Over 85% of families choose to send their students to public schools. Almost 80% of students go to their neighborhood public schools.
- Neighborhood public schools are underfunded. Florida ranks 48th in public education funding, and funding for Florida's public schools is down 17.5% in inflation adjusted dollars since 2007.
- In states where similar programs have been implemented, 80% of taxpayer money goes to families who are already paying for private school tuition.
- Voucher amounts will not pay the full tuition cost of the prestigious private schools that families imagine their student can attend. Prestigious private schools do not need to admit students who receive vouchers.
- Most voucher schools are strip mall school with unqualified teachers, workbooks instead of rigorous curriculum, and no wraparound programs or services.
- Step Up for Students, the organization that will administer this program, failed horribly at administering MacKay and Gardiner program vouchers for students with disabilities, resulting in students who did not receive needed services.

For More Information

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Notes and References

["Endtime" academies: The ugly reality of Florida's voucher provider network](#)

[In Florida, School Vouchers Mean Big Bucks For One Organization \(forbes.com\)](#)

[Step Up Preliminary Report-Final.docx \(lwwfl.org\)](#)

["Capacity-ism:" Florida spends \\$1 Billion per year on a fraudulent voucher marketplace that has created zero private education capacity. A documentary. \(substack.com\)](#)

[Cough up the voucher data, Florida, pt 1: Have we really hit 46% gift inflation in per-voucher cost? \(substack.com\)](#)

["Step Up for Students" endangers good voucher schools far more than any reporter, lawmaker, or corporation \(substack.com\)](#)

[Anti-LGBT Florida schools getting school vouchers \(orlandosentinel.com\)](#)

[Schools Without Rules: An Orlando Sentinel Investigation – Orlando Sentinel](#)

[Universal Education Savings Accounts, HB1 and the Further Defunding and Dismantling of Florida's Public Schools – accountabaloney](#)

[Gardiner Parents Frustrated, Demanding Oversight – accountabaloney](#)

[2 months into school year, children with disabilities still wait for state scholarships – Orlando Sentinel](#)

[State auditors slam Step Up For Students \(floridapolitics.com\)](#)