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NEWS RELEASE

Private School Tax Scheme Will Hurt Kids and Public Education

Passage of LB753 Ignores Will of Nebraska Voters

May 24, 2023 – The Legislature today passed LB753, which would give public funds to private schools through a convoluted tax scheme that will hurt kids while benefitting the uber-rich and corporations.

"The <u>majority of Nebraskans oppose giving public tax dollars to private schools</u> and have rejected such attempts at the ballot box three times previously," said Jenni Benson, president of the Nebraska State Education Association.

"Nebraska public schools educate 90% of all the kids in Nebraska. We need to keep our public schools strong. Other states that have bought into these tax voucher schemes ended up damaging their local public schools and communities. This is not the future we want for our young people in Nebraska nor our communities."

- LB753 will lead to funding cuts that will weaken Nebraska's public schools, will hurt kids, and will particularly hurt our rural communities.
- LB753 will drain available funding from Nebraska's public schools and give it to unaccountable private schools that discriminate against kids.
- More than half of Nebraska's 93 counties have no private schools.
- LB753 will not help current private schools as only new students are eligible for these tax-funded private school tuition payments.

The NSEA will work with public school supporters and communities to give Nebraskans the opportunity to vote to repeal this harmful bill.

We encourage Nebraskans to join <u>Support Our Schools Nebraska</u> which will soon launch a referendum petition drive to collect the signatures needed to put the issue on the November 2024 General Election ballot.

Visit https://supportourschoolsnebraska.org/ for more information on the petition drive to repeal LB753.

The Nebraska State Education Association is a member-directed professional employee organization representing 25,000 public school teachers and other educational professionals across Nebraska.

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