

# 5 ACTIONS

**you can take to help stop  
the private school voucher  
bill (S-1872/A-2810) and  
keep public money in  
our public schools!**

- 1** Contact members of the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee and the Assembly Budget Committee **BEFORE** February 3. Urge them to oppose the bill. Contact information is on the back of this sheet.
- 2** Use the district locator to contact your own State Senator and Assemblypersons. Visit, call or email and ask them to oppose the bill. This bill will be discussed in their party caucuses between February 3 and February 17 so it is important you reach out to them now.
- 3** Visit the New Jersey Kids and Families website ([njkidsandfamilies.org](http://njkidsandfamilies.org)) often for more information about how you can help stop this voucher bill and advocate for great public schools in New Jersey. While you are there, sign up for email updates so you'll always be informed.
- 4** Sign up for text message alerts from New Jersey Kids and Families. It's easy. Just text KIDS to 228466 and you will get alerts when your help is needed to protect great public schools.
- 5** Ask colleagues, family members, friends, neighbors, and parents in your community to join you in all of these actions.

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# njea Government Relations

## New Jersey Legislative Districts By County

### ATLANTIC LD

Absecon	2
Atlantic City	2
Brigantine	2
Buena	1
Buena Vista	1
Corbin City	2
Egg Harbor Twp.	2
Egg Harbor City	2
Estell Manor City	2
Folsom	9
Galloway Twp.	2
Hamilton Twp.	2
Hammonton Town	9
Linwood City	2
Longport	2
Margate City	2
Mullica Twp.	2
Northfield City	2
Pleasantville City	2
Port Republic City	2
Somers Point City	1
Ventnor City	2
Weymouth Twp.	2

### BERGEN LD

Allendale	39
Alpine	39
Bergenfield	37
Bogota	37
Carlstadt	36
Cliffside Park	38
Closter	39
Cresskill	39
Demarest	39
Dumont	39
East Rutherford	36
Edgewater	38
Elmwood Park	38
Emerson	39
Englewood City	37
Englewood Cliffs	37
Fair Lawn	38
Fairview	32
Fort Lee	38
Franklin Lakes	40
Garfield City	36
Glen Rock	35
Hackensack City	37
Harrington Park	39
Hasbrouck Heights	38
Haworth	39
Hillsdale	39
Ho-Ho-Kus	39
Leonia	37
Little Ferry	38
Lodi	38
Lyndhurst	36
Mahwah	40

Maywood	37
Midland Park	40
Montvale	39
Moonachie	36
New Milford	39
North Arlington	36
Northvale	39
Norwood	39
Oakland	40
Old Tappan	39
Oradell	39
Palisades Park	37
Paramus	38
Park Ridge	39
Ramsey	39
Ridgefield	38
Ridgefield Park	37
Ridgewood	40
River Edge	39
River Vale	39
Rochelle Park	37
Rockleigh	39
Rutherford	36
Saddle Brook	38
Saddle River	39
South Hackensack	38
Teaneck	37
Tenafly	37
Teterboro	38
Upper Saddle River	39
Waldwick	39
Wallington	36
Washington	39
Westwood	39
Woodcliff Lake	39
Wood-Ridge	36
Wyckoff	40

### BURLINGTON LD

Bass River	9
Beverly	7
Bordentown City	30
Bordentown Twp.	30
Burlington City	7
Burlington Twp.	7
Chesterfield	30
Cinnaminson	7
Delanco	7
Delran	7
Eastampton	8
Edgewater Park	7
Evesham	8
Fieldsboro	30
Florence	7
Hainesport	8
Lumberton	8
Mansfield	8
Maple Shade	7
Medford	8

Medford Lakes	8
Moorestown	8
Mount Holly	7
Mount Laurel	8
New Hanover	30
North Hanover	30
Palmyra	7
Pemberton Boro	8
Pemberton Twp.	8
Riverside	7
Riverton	7
Shamong	8
Southampton	8
Springfield	8
Tabernacle	8
Washington	9
Westampton	7
Willingboro	7
Woodland	8
Wrightstown	8

### CAMDEN LD

Audubon	5
Audubon Park	6
Barrington	5
Bellmawr	5
Berlin Boro	6
Berlin Twp.	6
Brooklawn	5
Camden	5
Cherry Hill	6
Cheshurst	6
Clementon	4
Collingswood	6
Gibbsboro	6
Gloucester	4
Gloucester City	5
Haddon Heights	5
Haddon Twp.	6
Haddonfield	6
Hi-Nella	5
Laurel Springs	4
Lawnside	5
Lindenwold	4
Magnolia	5
Merchantville	7
Mount Ephraim	5
Oaklyn	6
Pennsauken	7
Pine Hill	6
Pine Valley	6
Runnemede	5
Somerdale	5
Stratford	5
Tavistock	6
Voorhees	6
Waterford	6
Winslow	6
Woodylyne	5

### CAPE MAY LD

All municipalities	1
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### CUMBERLAND LD

Bridgeton	3
Commercial	3
Deerfield	3
Downe	3
Fairfield	3
Greenwich	3
Hopewell	3

Lawrence	3
Maurice River	1
Milville	1
Shiloh	3
Stow Creek	3
Upper Deerfield	3
Vineland	1

### ESSEX LD

Belleville	28
Bloomfield	28
Caldwell	27
Cedar Grove	40
East Orange	34
Essex Fells	27
Fairfield	27
Glen Ridge	34
Irvington	28
Livingston	27
Maplewood	27
Millburn	21
Montclair	34
Newark	27, 28, 29
North Caldwell	27
Nutley	36
Orange	27
Roseland	27
South Orange	27
Verona	40
West Caldwell	27
West Orange	27

### GLOUCESTER LD

Clayton	3
Deptford	5
East Greenwich	3
Elk	3
Franklin	4
Glassboro	4
Greenwich	3
Harrison	3
Logan	3
Mantua	3
Monroe	4
National Park	3
Newfield	4
Paulsboro	3
Pitman	4
South Harrison	3
Swedesboro	3
Washington	4
Wenonah	3
West Deptford	3
Westville	5
Woodbury	5
Woodbury Heights	5
Woolwich	3

### HUDSON LD

Bayonne	31
East Newark	32
Guttenberg	33
Harrison	32
Hoboken	33
Jersey City	31, 32, 33
Kearny	32
North Bergen	32
Secaucus	32
Union City	33
Weehawken	33
West New York	33

<b>HUNTERDON</b>	<b>LD</b>
Alexandria	23
Bethlehem	23
Bloomsbury	23
Califon	24
Clinton	23
Clinton Twp.	23
Delaware	23
East Amwell	23
Flemington	23
Franklin	23
Frenchtown	23
Glen Gardner	23
Hampton	23
High Bridge	23
Holland	23
Kingwood	23
Lambertville	23
Lebanon Boro	23
Lebanon Twp.	23
Milford	23
Raritan	23
Readington	23
Stockton	23
Tewksbury	24
Union	23
West Amwell	23

<b>MERCER</b>	<b>LD</b>
East Windsor	12
Ewing	15
Hamilton	14
Hightstown	12
Hopewell Boro	15
Hopewell Twp.	15
Lawrence	15
Pennington	15
Princeton Boro	15
Princeton Twp.	15
Trenton	15
Washington	30
West Windsor	14

<b>MIDDLESEX</b>	<b>LD</b>
Carteret	19
Cranbury	14
Dunellen	22
East Brunswick	18
Edison	18
Helmetta	18
Highland Park	17
Jamesburg	14
Metuchen	18
Middlesex	22
Milrtown	17
Monroe	14
New Brunswick	17
North Brunswick	17
Old Bridge	13
Perth Amboy	19
Piscataway	17
Plainsboro	14
Sayreville	19
South Amboy	19
South Brunswick	14
South Plainfield	18
South River	18
Spotswood	18
Woodbridge	19

<b>MONMOUTH</b>	<b>LD</b>
Aberdeen	13
Allenhurst	11
Allentown	30
Asbury Park	11
Atlantic Highlands	11
Avon-by-the-Sea	11
Belmar	11
Bradley Beach	11
Brielle	11
Colts Neck	12
Deal	11
Eatontown	11
Englishtown	12
Fair Haven	12
Farmingdale	30
Freehold Boro	12
Freehold Twp.	12
Hazlet	13
Highlands	11
Holmdel	13
Howell	30
Interlaken	11
Keansburg	13
Keyport	13
Lake Como	11
Little Silver	12
Loch Arbour	11
Long Branch	11
Manalapan	12
Manasquan	10
Marlboro	12
Matawan	13
Middletown	13
Millstone	12
Monmouth Beach	11
Neptune City	11
Neptune Twp.	11
Ocean Twp.	11
Oceanport	12
Red Bank	12
Roosevelt	30
Rumson	11
Sea Bright	11
Sea Girt	11
Shrewsbury Boro	12
Shrewsbury Twp.	12
Spring Lake	11
Spring Lake Heights	11
Tinton Falls	12
Union Beach	13
Upper Freehold	30
Wall	11
West Long Branch	11

<b>MORRIS</b>	<b>LD</b>
Boonton Town	25
Boonton Twp.	25
Butler	26
Chatham Boro	26
Chatham Twp.	21
Chester Boro	24
Chester Twp.	24
Denville	25
Dover Town	25
East Hanover	26
Florham Park	26
Hanover	26
Harding	21

Jefferson	25
Kinnelon	26
Lincoln Park	26
Long Hill	21
Madison	21
Mendham Boro	16
Mendham Twp.	25
Mine Hill	25
Montville	26
Morris	25
Morris Plains	12
Morristown	25
Mount Arlington	25
Mountain Lakes	25
Mount Olive	24
Netcong	24
Parsippany-Troy Hills	26
Passaic Twp.	22
Pequanock	26
Randolph	25
Riverdale	26
Rockaway Boro	25
Rockaway Twp.	25
Roxbury	25
Victory Gardens	25
Washington	24
Wharton	25

<b>OCEAN</b>	<b>LD</b>
Barnegat	9
Barnegat Light	9
Bay Head	10
Beach Haven	9
Beachwood	9
Berkeley	9
Brick	10
Eagleswood	9
Harvey Cedars	9
Island Heights	10
Jackson	30
Lacey Twp.	9
Lakehurst	9
Lakewood	30
Lavallette	10
Little Egg Harbor	9
Long Beach	9
Manchester	9
Mantoloking	10
Ocean	9
Ocean Gate	9
Pine Beach	9
Plumsted	30
Point Pleasant	10
Point Pleasant Beach	10
Seaside Heights	10
Seaside Park	10
Ship Bottom	9
South Toms River	10
Stafford	9
Surf City	9
Toms River	10
Tuckerton	9

<b>PASSAIC</b>	<b>LD</b>
Bloomington	26
Clifton	34
Haledon	35
Hawthorne	35
Little Falls	40
North Haledon	35

Passaic	36
Paterson	35
Pompton Lakes	26
Prospect Park	35
Ringwood	40
Totowa	35
Wanaque	40
Wayne	40
West Milford	26
Woodland Park	34

<b>SALEM</b>	<b>LD</b>
All municipalities	3

<b>SOMERSET</b>	<b>LD</b>
Bedminster	16
Bernards	16
Bernardsville	16
Bound Brook	16
Branchburg	16
Bridgewater	16
Far Hills	16
Franklin	17
Green Brook	22
Hillsborough	16
Manville	16
Millstone	16
Montgomery	16
North Plainfield	22
Peapack-Gladstone	16
Raritan	16
Rocky Hill	16
Somerville	16
South Bound Brook	16
Warren	21
Watchung	21

<b>SUSSEX</b>	<b>LD</b>
All municipalities	24

<b>UNION</b>	<b>LD</b>
Berkeley Heights	21
Clark	22
Cranford	21
Elizabeth	20
Fanwood	22
Garwood	21
Hillside	29
Kenilworth	20
Linden	22
Mountainside	21
New Providence	21
Plainfield	22
Rahway	22
Roselle	20
Roselle Park	21
Scotch Plains	22
Springfield	21
Summit	21
Union	20
Westfield	21
Winfield	22

<b>WARREN</b>	<b>LD</b>
All municipalities	23

# How to talk about the voucher bill

## A GUIDE FOR MEMBERS

### KEY POINTS:

- I don't want the state sending \$1 billion to private schools while it is cutting aid to my students and my district. That hurts my students and raises property taxes for their families and for me.
- These aren't private corporate donations. This is just a way to shift tax dollars from public schools to private schools.
- It is outrageous that 25% of the money goes to families already in private schools. That has nothing to do with struggling public schools. It's a pure giveaway to private schools. Meanwhile because of budget cuts my students have to make do with less.
- Incredibly, the bill allows "scholarship organizations" giving out vouchers to keep up to \$50 million in management fees.

### RESPONSES TO TOUGH QUESTIONS:

#### *"This is revenue neutral." OR "This will save money."*

- How can this be revenue neutral if at least 25% of the money goes to the parents of currently enrolled private school students? It makes no sense that ADDING people who are currently paying their own way somehow saves the state money. What you say makes no sense.
- It's certainly not revenue neutral for public schools. My district already lost money to Christie's cuts.
- I'd rather you use those corporate tax dollars to fund my district's schools, not private schools.
- We'll never get our programs back, and we'll never see property tax relief if we send education dollars to private schools instead of to our districts that have been cut.

#### *This is a civil rights issue. We need to do something for students in those schools now.*

- Civil rights should apply to everyone. This bill only applies to a few students. What about the civil rights of the other students?
- What kind of civil rights legislation excludes special education students?
- This bill is a cop out. We need to work on solutions that help every student.

#### *Would you send your child to one of those schools?*

- Well, if my child needed special education services, under this bill I wouldn't be allowed to use this program. And you know what, I wouldn't stand behind any program that discriminated against our neediest students.
- If I lived in ( \_\_district\_\_ ), the first thing I'd want to know is that money that was meant for my public schools was going to my public schools, not being given away to private schools, especially for kids who never went to public schools in the first place.
- But the fact is that I don't live in ( \_\_district\_\_ ). I live in ( \_\_district\_\_ ) and I send my child to the public schools where we live. And our public schools are getting shortchanged. Whatever public resources we have now should be focused on our public schools, not private schools.

#### *But this bill doesn't use tax dollars.*

- That is ridiculous. It is funded with money that corporations owe in state taxes.
- Instead, the state lets them give that money to private scholarship funds.
  - That's money the state was supposed to get, but now it will never see.
  - That is money the state could have used to help our public schools.
- Playing games like pretending this isn't tax money is what makes people cynical about government.

**SAY NO TO S-1872/A-2810**

# THE "Opportunity Scholarship Act" (VOUCHER BILL) – S-1872/A-2810

## FACT SHEET

### WHAT IT DOES:

This law would forfeit almost a billion dollars out of the state treasury to create New Jersey's first-ever publicly funded private school voucher program. Under the bill, students in 13 school districts would be entitled to take a voucher (called a "scholarship" by the bill's sponsors) to attend private and religious schools. The program would allow up to 40,000 students to participate by the fifth year.

### HOW IT WORKS:

The State Treasury would fully fund the program by granting dollar-for-dollar tax credits to corporations that donate to a "scholarship organization." These organizations, staffed by corporate representatives, distribute the money to private and religious schools. This shell game is designed to escape the appearance of a direct entanglement of the state with religion.

### DISTRICTS:

Asbury Park, Camden, East Orange, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Lakewood, Newark, Orange, Passaic, Paterson, Perth Amboy, Plainfield, and Trenton.

### COST:

Up to \$1 billion – OR MORE -- over five years. Incredibly, the bill allows "scholarship organizations" giving out vouchers to keep up to \$50 million in management fees.

### ELIGIBLE STUDENTS:

At least 25% of the money goes to parents of currently enrolled private school students. Additional currently enrolled private school students may receive the money if public school student demand is low.

### INCOME ELIGIBILITY:

2.5 times federal poverty level, about \$55,000/yr. income for family of four

### VOUCHER AMOUNT:

At least \$8,000 for elementary school; at least \$11,000 for high school

### SPECIAL EDUCATION:

A parent is required to sign away their federally guaranteed rights to special education services for their child to participate in the program. That means special education students will be essentially shut out of the program because private schools are not required to provide special education services.

### TRANSPORTATION:

The local school district is required to pay for and provide transportation for the voucher students to attend the private schools.

### ACCOUNTABILITY:

Private schools do not have to hire certified teachers, administer state achievement tests to all students, or even report overall academic results. The voucher students will be required to take a state test, but the results are unlikely to be made public.

# Information is **POWER** *...get yours faster!*

In the fast-breaking world of education and politics, advocates need to be able to spring into action on a moment's notice. Now you can be on the cutting edge by having action alerts delivered directly to your cell phone.

It's easy. Just text the word **'KIDS'** to **228466** to get started. You won't be barraged with texts, but you will get information you need when you need it to make a difference for students and public schools.

Once you have signed up yourself, please take this flier and share it with your colleagues. Together, we can stand strong and united for great public schools.

