

Greater Indianapolis NAACP Branch #3053

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greater Indianapolis NAACP Calls for Transparency and Equity in Response to Proposed IPS School Closures and Charter Conversions

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — January 15, 2025— The Greater Indianapolis NAACP Branch 3053 strongly opposes proposed closures and conversions of Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) to non-traditional charter schools. The proposed legislation (HB1136) threatens to undermine public education, exacerbate inequities, and deny families and communities their rightful voice in shaping the future of their children’s education.

The Indianapolis NAACP calls for transparency, equity, and accountability in decisions affecting the district, highlighting the following concerns:

- Denial of Parental Input and School Choice - The IPS closure and charter conversion proposal silences the voices of parents and community members who have a vested interest in the education and future of their children. The proposed bill excludes families from meaningful participation in decisions having profound and lasting impacts on their neighborhoods and schools.
- Loss of Critical Resources - The proposed bill jeopardizes essential services that IPS currently provides, including:
 - Extracurricular activities, arts, vocational trade, and STEM programs.
 - Breakfast programs.
 - Title IX protection.
 - Transportation services.
- Redirecting public funds without input from voters.
- Lack of data-driven justification.
- Lack of educator input.
- Legal and Equity Concerns - Indiana law mandates public input and transparency in decisions regarding the dissolution or reorganization of public school corporations. Moving forward without adequate community engagement and due process exposes this initiative to legal challenges. The proposed bill also perpetuates inequities by disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations who rely on public education for opportunity, community services, and upward mobility.

The Greater Indianapolis NAACP calls on local and state leaders to defeat this bill and engage in a transparent, inclusive decision-making process to uphold the values of public education and community empowerment.

For more information or to join the conversation, please contact the Greater Indianapolis NAACP Branch 3053 at education@indynaacp.org.



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About Greater Indianapolis NAACP

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation’s oldest, largest and most widely recognized civil rights organization. Its mission is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights for all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. The Greater Indianapolis Branch of the NAACP was founded in 1912. Throughout our 112-year history, we have continued to fight for civil rights, particularly in the areas of job and housing discrimination. We have long sought to empower people through the ballot box and continue to vigorously defend voting rights and help register voters.