

E CALL TO ACTION! Contact Your Legislators

Traditional public schools are under attack. Your elected officials need to hear from you!

Call Script

"Hello, my name is [Your Name]. I am calling to express my strong opposition to [SB518], which will destabilize entire school districts and impede the educational progress of students. I urge you to oppose policies that further reduce funding for traditional public schools and to support legislation that ensures every child has access to the resources they need to succeed. Thank you for your time."

Meet in Person

Call and schedule a visit with both your state senator and representative. Ask your legislators where they stand on maintaining traditional public schools. Advise them that you have strong beliefs about maintaining traditional public schools where the school board is elected by and accountable to parents.

Email/Letter Script

Dear Sen. Linda Rogers, Sen. Jeff Raatz, Sen. Mike Gaskill (SB518 authors) and Rep. Jeffrey Thompson, Rep. Robert Behning, Rep. Jake Teshka, Rep. Andrew Ireland (SB518 sponsors),

I am writing to express my strong opposition to [SB518]. This bill will disproportionately impact services provided by traditional public schools in the Indianapolis community. I urge you to:

- Oppose any legislation without fully understanding the fiscal impact.
- Solicit recommendations from parents of the affected communities to determine the future educational structure expectations for students in Indianapolis.

Taxpayers voted to have their taxes increased for the specific purpose contained in the referendum and should maintain the right to determine how those dollars are spent!

Sincerely. [Your Name] [Your Address]

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Education Related Bills to Watch

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SB 518: School property tax. Sharing property tax dollars with charter schools OPPOSE What it does: The bill would require all traditional public-school districts, including Indianapolis Public Schools, to share property tax revenue with charter schools in their attendance boundaries, if 100 or more kids leave the traditional district for charter schools, starting in 2028. Status: The bill passed out of the Senate by a 28-21 vote on Feb. 20. Testimony on the bill was taken in the House Committee on Ways and Means but there hasn't yet been a vote. Lead Author: Sen. Linda Rogers, Call 800-382-9467 https://www.indianasenaterepublicans.com/contact-me-s11

HB 1230 School board elections. OPPOSE

What it does: Requires a petition of nomination for a school board office to state one of the following: (1) The candidate's political party affiliation. (2) If the candidate does not identify with a political party, that the candidate is an independent candidate. Specifies that unless a candidate that states a political party affiliation is challenged, the candidate's statement must be indicated on the ballot. Rep. J.D. Prescott.

SB 287 School board matters. OPPOSE

What it does: Requires school board candidates to declare their political party affiliation, identify as independent, or choose to be listed as nonpartisan on the ballot. If a candidate's party affiliation is not challenged, it will appear on the ballot, but straight-party votes will not apply to school board races. Changes how vacancies, replaced, and sets increased pay for school board members. Authored by: <u>Sen. Gary Byrne</u>, <u>Sen. Chris Garten</u>, Sen. Blake Doriot.

SB 289 Nondiscrimination in employment and education. OPPOSE

What it does: Establishes prohibitions and requirements on state agencies, state educational institutions, and health profession licensing boards regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion. Provides that certain civil actions for noncompliance may be filed against a state educational institution. Establishes requirements regarding a standardized admissions test for state educational institutions that offer certain health education programs. Requires a school corporation, charter school, state agency, and political subdivision to post on its website certain training and curricular materials concerning nondiscrimination, diversity, equity, inclusion, race, ethnicity, sex, and bias. Authored by: Sen. Gary Byrne, Sen. Tyler Johnson.