



WHEREAS, Tennessee should be increasing its commitment to public education, not decreasing it; and

WHEREAS, school voucher programs divert taxpayer money from public schools and use it for the private school educations of only certain students; and

WHEREAS, school voucher programs have not improved educational outcomes anywhere they have been adopted; and

WHEREAS, in addition, it is unclear whether there will be sufficient oversight or accountability for schools enrolled in the school voucher program and whether students will be subject to state testing or retention requirements; and

WHEREAS, generally, private schools are subjected to less oversight and regulation than public schools, and not all students are able to choose which private school they attend. Instead, private schools have the ability to turn away students and only admit students they want; and

WHEREAS, public funds should stay in public school systems and not be used to fund private and parochial schools; and

WHEREAS, instead of expanding the school voucher program, the Tennessee General Assembly should eliminate the program and use the funds to properly invest in public schools across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly should reject the expansion of the school voucher program and rescind legislation that authorizes school vouchers in Davidson, Shelby, and Hamilton counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as opposing expansion of the Education Savings Account program in Tennessee and further opposing the defunding of public schools in Tennessee.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.