

The Senate version of the State Budget shows contempt for the people's governing document.

Universal vouchers, in violation of Article VI, Section 2 of the Ohio Constitution, and transfer of the core duties and responsibilities of the State Board of Education to the Governor's office, in violation of the 1953 constitutional amendment to establish a State Board of Education (Article VI, Section 4), are prime examples of the Senate's disregard for the will of a majority of Ohioans.

The Senate proposal of universal vouchers with a \$1 billion per year price tag is totally antithetical to the state's constitutional responsibility to secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools. The Senate proposal increases the high school voucher amount by 13% from \$7500 to \$8407.

In 1953 the citizens of Ohio via constitutional amendment moved the state education function from the Governor's office to a State Board of Education. In a knee-jerk reaction to some perceived malfunctions of the State Board of Education, the Senate proposes the transfer of its core functions to the Governor's office.

In another act to hurt public education, the Senate budget removed a House provision to raise the minimum teacher's salary from \$30,000 to \$40,000.