The call for school vouchers for "the poor" was the ploy early-on to jump start the original goal of universal vouchers.

Few poor students can afford the difference between the amount of the voucher and private school tuition. The universal voucher scheme in Ohio has already triggered an increase in private school tuition, which will result in denying most of "the poor" from participation in the program. Eventually only the wealthy will have the financial means to use vouchers. Many, if not most, of the new vouchers in Ohio are going to those families who had already been paying private school tuition.