30th anniversary of the Trial Court Decision in the DeRolph School Funding Case, July 1, 2024—Part 3

CORAS member school district leaders were frustrated with the response of state officials to their plea for additional state resources for public education. CORAS members decided to discuss their concerns regarding inadequate state funding with school groups in other areas of the state. Urban district officials became interested as well as other school district groups that had come together to express their frustrations regarding Ohio's school funding system. Discussion regarding the inadequacy of the state's school funding system became widespread.

Meanwhile CORAS leaders decided to engage school finance expert, Dr. Samuel Kern Alexander to conduct a study of the Ohio school finance systems.

Dr. Alexander's study demonstrated that the Ohio school finance system, and thus the common school system, was seriously flawed; thus, the system did not meet the constitutional standard of thorough and efficient. This conclusion rallied a significant majority of district leaders to consider a constitutional challenge to Ohio's school funding system.

The next segment of the DeRolph school funding narrative will discuss the filing of the DeRolph lawsuit.