

**Elevator speech explaining the necessity of challenging the constitutionality of the EdChoice voucher scheme.**

The Ohio General Assembly is constitutionally responsible to secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools but has historically refused to do so. This is a constitutional mandate to the General Assembly. Period!

On March 24, 1997, the Ohio Supreme Court handed the General Assembly a golden opportunity to perfect the public school system, but the General Assembly chose to initiate an unconstitutional alternative—the voucher scheme.

The voucher scheme is funded from the same pool of revenue set aside for public school districts, promotes tax funded economic, social and racial segregation, funds religious education, establishes an uncommon system of education contrary to the Ohio Constitution, forces school districts to rely more heavily on property tax, and mitigates against the common good and the social contract. Further, private schools are not required to be accountable to the public for the public funds received and are for the most part unregulated.

A constitutional challenge to the EdChoice voucher scheme is imperative.