

**Excerpt from BRIEF OF *AMICUS CURIAE* OHIO ADVOCACY AND LEGAL SERVICES
ORGANIZATIONS FILED IN SUPPORT OF APPELLEES / CROSS-APPELLANTS in the EdChoice
voucher case regarding publicly funded discrimination.**

The position of the Ohio Coalition/Vouchers Hurt Ohio (VHO) before the 10th District Court of Appeals has drawn widespread support. Four *amicus briefs* representing 17 organizations have been filed in support. These briefs are filled with cogent, compelling arguments that hopefully the court will carefully consider. A sample of what is being presented to the court is provided on pages 43 and 44 of the above-mentioned brief.

“Students at public schools in Ohio are protected from discrimination under numerous federal and state statutes. While nonpublic schools in Ohio eligible to receive vouchers must sign an “Affidavit of Intent Not to Discriminate,” this only states the school does not intend to practice racial discrimination. In contrast, public schools in Ohio must commit to vigorously enforce prohibitions against discriminatory harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age (except as authorized by law), religion, ancestry, or genetic information. Students are faced with an untenable decision: if they choose to participate in the EdChoice voucher program, they also must risk overt discrimination and exclusion.”

The EdChoice voucher scheme is fraught with peril. The scheme endangers students and taxpayers.