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**State elected officials in Ohio, consistent with the Ohio Constitution and Ohio law, resisted appropriating public funds for private schools until 1965: Part 1.**

In 1819 the Ohio legislature established a Commission to study the concept of the common school system. The 1802 constitutional mandate for education was to encourage schools and the means for education by legislative decree.

The legislature enacted the Common School Bill in 1825. This bill required the formation of school districts to be supported by the taxpayers and managed by public boards. The mandate was strictly for a public body, with no provision for a private operation of any type.

Part 2 will discuss the office and role of the Superintendent of Common Schools