

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSAL ONE WHERE THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN WILL BE AMENDED TO PERMIT VOUCHER PAYMENTS TO RELIGIOUS AND OTHER NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND WILL PERMIT THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO AUTHORIZE INDIRECT STATE AID AND TAX BENEFITS IN SUPPORT OF RELIGIOUS AND OTHER NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 18, 2000

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners supports efforts and requirements to ensure the right to access to a quality public education for all children in the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners believes that the guarantee of a quality public education is a cornerstone of the guaranteed freedoms for all citizens of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Constitution of 1963, and as amended in 1970, currently preserves and protects the right of all parents and children to attend the schools of their choice; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Constitution of 1963/1970 preserves the fundamental right of the public to limit with exceptions only for transportation and some special education, the expenditure of tax dollars on public schools that are open to all children, without restriction or discrimination based on race, religion, creed, gender, special needs, class or income; and

WHEREAS the proposed amendment does not require that the voucher pay the full tuition of a school and allows any additional payments made for tuition to be deductible from the state income tax of the individual paying the tuition differential

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners publicly declares its opposition to Proposal 1, the constitutional amendment to permit voucher supported private education in the state of Michigan, and opposed any additional direct or indirect state aid and maintenance in support of religious and other private education in any public school district of this state

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Gov. John Engler, The ALL Kids First Coalition and the Kids First Yes! Coalition.