Resolution Opposing Education Scholarship Accounts and Voucher Expansion

WHEREAS, the Indiana General Assembly during its 2021 legislative session is considering House Bill 1005, Senate Bill 413, and other bills that establish Education Scholarship Accounts and expand vouchers.

WHEREAS, the Randolph Southern Board of School Trustees has determined that the Indiana General Assembly should not enact Education Scholarship Accounts, or expand vouchers, and should continue to promote and fully invest in Indiana's public schools, more specifically, to further the public good, public funds should be invested in improving the schools designed to serve all children and to aid in improving Indiana public school teachers' salaries as recommended by the Governor's Teacher Compensation Commission in its report of December 2020.

WHEREAS, the cost of Education Scholarship Accounts and school vouchers are covered exclusively by our state's school tuition fund, further providing fewer public dollars to fund our public schools and increase teacher salaries.

WHEREAS, the Randolph Southern Board of School Trustees provide a strong educational environment for Indiana's children and Education Scholarship Account, if enacted, and expanded vouchers would put this environment at risk by directing resources away from those schools to nonpublic schools and/or home schools that are not subject to the same rigorous scrutiny for their use of taxpayer resources

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, the Randolph Southern Board of School Trustees opposes the passage of HB 1005 and SB 413 or any bill expanding vouchers and/or creating Education Scholarship Accounts.

Approved this 8th day of March, 2021.

Michael Miller, President

Jan Caudle, Vice President

Tom McFarland, Secretary

Eric Retter, Member

Don Pruitt, Member