

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION B

January 15, 2015, Introduced by Rep. Kelly and referred to the Committee on Education.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending section 2 of article VIII, to allow limited financial support for children with special needs to attend any school of their choice, including nonpublic schools.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to allow limited financial support for children with special needs to attend any school of their choice, including nonpublic schools, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

ARTICLE VIII

Sec. 2. The legislature shall maintain and support a system of free public elementary and secondary schools as defined by law.

1 Every school district shall provide for the education of its pupils  
2 without discrimination as to religion, creed, race, color or  
3 national origin.

4 ~~NO EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS PARAGRAPH, NO~~ public monies or  
5 property shall be appropriated or paid or any public credit  
6 utilized, by the legislature or any other political subdivision or  
7 agency of the state directly or indirectly to aid or maintain any  
8 private, denominational or other nonpublic, pre-elementary,  
9 elementary, or secondary school. ~~NO EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS~~  
10 ~~PARAGRAPH, NO~~ payment, credit, tax benefit, exemption or  
11 deductions, tuition voucher, subsidy, grant or loan of public  
12 monies or property shall be provided, directly or indirectly, to  
13 support the attendance of any student or the employment of any  
14 person at any such nonpublic school. ~~or at any location or~~  
15 ~~institution where instruction is offered in whole or in part to~~  
16 ~~such nonpublic school students.~~ The legislature may provide for the  
17 transportation of students to and from any school. **THE LEGISLATURE**  
18 **SHALL PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS TO**  
19 **ATTEND THE SCHOOL OF THEIR CHOICE, INCLUDING A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL, IF**  
20 **THE AMOUNT OF THAT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR A CHILD DOES NOT EXCEED**  
21 **THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT WOULD BE PROVIDED**  
22 **TO A PUBLIC SCHOOL ON THE CHILD'S BEHALF DUE TO HIS OR HER SPECIAL**  
23 **NEEDS IF THE CHILD WERE ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

24 Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be  
25 submitted to the people of the state at the next general election  
26 in the manner provided by law.