

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION SS

December 18, 2014, Introduced by Rep. Lipton.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending section 2 of article VIII, to require a system of high-quality free and safe public schools, to require that at least one school in each school district is governed by a locally elected board, and to require that there is at least one school in each school district where pupils can physically attend school and interact in person with teachers and other pupils.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to require a system of high-quality free and safe public schools, to require that at least one school in each school district is governed by a locally elected board, and to

require that there is at least one school in each school district where pupils can physically attend school and interact in person with teachers and other pupils, 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 **HIGH-QUALITY** free **AND SAFE** public elementary and secondary schools as defined by law. Every school district shall provide for the education of its pupils without discrimination as to religion, creed, race, color or national origin. **FOR PUPILS AT EVERY GRADE LEVEL, AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL IN EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY A LOCAL PUBLICLY ELECTED SCHOOL BOARD. FOR PUPILS AT EVERY GRADE LEVEL, EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL BUILDING WHERE PUPILS CAN PHYSICALLY ATTEND SCHOOL AND INTERACT IN PERSON WITH TEACHERS AND OTHER PUPILS. IF THIS STATE OR AN APPOINTEE OF THIS STATE TAKES OVER THE GOVERNANCE OF ANY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, THIS STATE OR ITS APPOINTEE SHALL ENSURE THAT, FOR PUPILS AT EVERY GRADE LEVEL, THERE IS AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL BUILDING MAINTAINED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WHERE PUPILS CAN PHYSICALLY ATTEND SCHOOL AND INTERACT IN PERSON WITH TEACHERS AND OTHER PUPILS.**

No public monies or property shall be appropriated or paid or any public credit utilized, by the legislature or any other political subdivision or agency of the state directly or indirectly to aid or maintain any private, denominational or other nonpublic, pre-elementary, elementary, or secondary school. No payment, credit, tax benefit, exemption or deductions, tuition voucher,

1 subsidy, grant or loan of public monies or property shall be
2 provided, directly or indirectly, to support the attendance of any
3 student or the employment of any person at any such nonpublic
4 school or at any location or institution where instruction is
5 offered in whole or in part to such nonpublic school students. The
6 legislature may provide for the transportation of students to and
7 from any school.

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