

HB 129, 279, 329, AND 633

DIVERT PUBLIC FUNDING TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND VIOLATE MONTANA'S CONSTITUTION

The Montana constitution is clear: every student has the right to a **free quality public education**. **Public funds shall not be appropriated to private corporations.**

HB 129

- **HB 129** expands Montana's 529 College Education Savings Account program to include private, for-profit, and religious k-12 education expenses.
- Unlike eligible colleges, k-12 schools that receive tax-preferred dollars do not need to meet any accreditation or accountability standards.
- HB 129 incentivizes the unaccountable privatization of Montana's schools.

HB 279

- HB 279 increases the tax credit an individual or corporation can receive for donating to for-profit and private schools -- by **1,333%**!
- Under HB 279, wealthy individuals and corporations could receive a \$200,000 tax credit when they financially support private institutions. **This massive tax giveaway will starve essential public services and public education in Montana.**
- To make matters worse, **HB 279 eliminates any oversight and accountability** to ensure all students receive a quality education.

HB 329

- HB 329 forces public schools to send state and local dollars to private institutions.
- These private institutions receiving public funds don't have to be accredited or even located in Montana.
- **HB 329 is a blatant violation of the Montana constitution.**

HB 633

- **HB 633 creates a publicly funded charter school system** in Montana with no elected school board, no accreditation, and no required physical presence in the state.
- **HB 633 would allow tax dollars to be diverted from Montana's quality public schools** to fund for-profit, unaccountable institutions.
- **HB 633 allows charter schools to discriminate against students with special needs.**

