



Texas Should Not Throw Away \$500 Million

Texas Governor Abbott called a special legislative session to press legislators to establish Texas' first-ever private school voucher program, funded by all Texas taxpayers. Instead, Texas needs to invest in public schools that serve 5.4 million students and their families. The proposed voucher program would cost \$500 million.

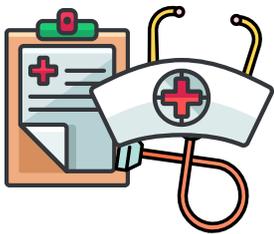
Here's what that \$500 million looks like in public schools...



8,490

Teachers

Texas is facing a teacher shortage crisis, especially in bilingual and special education. Texas should ensure every public school student has a qualified, dedicated instructor.



12,860

School nurses

Only a small percentage of Texas public schools have a full-time nurse on campus, leaving millions of students without the medical care they need. This funding could more than double the number of school nurses in our public schools.



2,008,032

Laptops for students

Texas students still struggle with a digital divide, especially in underserved communities. \$500 million could provide 36% of public school students with new or updated laptops.



5,555

School buses

Getting to and from school remains a barrier for many students, especially those in underserved communities. Keeping taxpayer money in public schools could guarantee that every child has a safe, dependable ride to school.



42,000,000

Books for learning

Inspiring students' early literacy and interest in reading is essential to lifelong learning. \$500 million could buy about 7 books per Texas public school student.

Public funds belong in public schools. Say no to vouchers!

Learn more at: https://www.idra.org/education_policy/stop-vouchers



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