



To Address State School Segregation, Give Families a Choice, Says NJPI

By Laura Waters May 29, 2025

For seven years a lawsuit charging that New Jersey schools are unconstitutionally segregated has meandered through the the state court system. Now a relatively new non-profit, the New Jersey Policy Institute ("NJPI"), has filed an amicus brief in the case initiated by the Latino Action Network against the state of New Jersey offering a practical, if partial, solution: We should adequately fund and expand a popular program called the Interdistrict Public School Choice Program to solve the problem at the heart of the plaintiffs' case, which is that we assign students to districts based on where their parents can afford to live.

Or, as NJPI Executive Director Wells Winegar says, "no child's educational future should be limited by their zip code."

This type of public school choice — being able to attend school in a district other than one's own— is also called "open enrollment." According to <u>national polling</u>, 79% of Democrats, 75% of Republicans and 73% of independents with school-aged children support open enrollment....

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