



New Jersey Policy Institute

# NEW JERSEY MONITOR

## New Jersey asks appellate court to deny school desegregation case appeal

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Attorneys for the state of New Jersey want an appellate court to deny an appeal bid by nonprofit groups and several public school families who allege New Jersey schools are unconstitutionally segregated along racial and socioeconomic lines.

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In Wednesday's filing, the state criticizes the plaintiffs for failing to show what desegregation would look like or offering any "practical solution."

The state's recent filing came one day after the New Jersey Policy Institute, a nonprofit think tank that supports school choice, filed a 20-page motion in the case arguing in favor of expanding a state program that allows students to attend schools outside of their hometowns.

Enrollment in the program has been virtually frozen since 2015. Lifting that freeze would be a cost-effective way to increase racial diversity and would not require any significant additional administration, they said, adding that districts could be incentivized to participate.

The program offers a "ready-made solution that can be implemented almost immediately," according to the institute, which says more than 2,000 students are currently on waitlists. And school choice expansion could help integrate schools more quickly than redistricting, according to the brief.

"The state has already built the infrastructure. All that's left is to unfreeze it," the brief states.

Read the full article [here!](#)

