

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my concern and support for the EdChoice program. I am a well-educated single mother of 3 children. I do not receive child support and live in Parma, OH a city with failing schools. I struggle on a regular basis to meet most bills and should not have to sacrifice my children's education by sending them to their assigned schools that are overcrowded and not in any way meeting your state/federal regulations on their education. I pay taxes and would prefer that money goes to helping me subsidize, not cover all, the tuition to send my 3 children to private school. Working full time as a single mother does not allow for me to have multiple job to cover tuition expenses and yet this will be the outcome if the scholarship is revoked as my oldest daughter will be attending a catholic high school and my two younger children will attend a catholic grade school this upcoming year. I have tried your way and sent all three of my children to failing Cleveland/Parma public schools only to have them come out behind their peers. We went through extensive work to find/apply to high schools as well as do all the steps to find additional scholarship money so it is not like I have not tried and am just asking for a handout. Because of the issues with this legislation my daughter could not choose her top school because with the chance the funding is removed I would go bankrupt trying to afford her education alone. Education should be one of the state's highest priorities and inhibiting the next generation essential preparation to someday lead is truly poor public policy.

Regards,

Dr. Kathleen Orellana

Dr. Kathleen Orellana DNP, MSHI, RN
6225 S Park Blvd
Parma, OH 44134