



LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS

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NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF PRIVATIZATION IN EDUCATION

To improve the design and effect of impending legislation, the NCSPE now offers its expertise to assist lawmakers, media, and concerned citizens in the analysis of current privatization initiatives.

about us

The NCSPE is a non-partisan research center housed at Teachers College, Columbia University. Through careful research and analysis, the Center evaluates educational policies and reforms at the state, national, and international level. The Center seeks to promote a balanced understanding of the political and legislative issues surrounding privatization and outline the potential consequences of impending reform. Examples of our policy analyses can be viewed on our website at www.ncspe.org.

analytic framework

The NCSPE uses a systematic approach to clarify the issues and available evidence surrounding educational privatization. We apply four criteria to analyze education initiatives:

- **Freedom of Choice** – Does the program offer parents choices?
- **Efficiency** – Does the program use resources efficiently?
- **Equity** – Does the program provide equal access for all children?
- **Social Cohesion** – Does the program promote common values for effective citizenship?

questions for implementation

There is no single approach to privatizing education. Satisfying one criterion may require a trade-off against other criteria. To anticipate the possible outcomes of any privatization initiative, policymakers must address a set of key questions across three categories.

- **Finance** – Refers to the magnitude of funds allocated to support privatization activities and how shifting dollars will impact students and schools
- **Regulation** – Describes the requirements that determine eligibility and the oversight of providers
- **Support Services** – Identifies services such as transportation or information dissemination that are necessary to ensure the accessibility of services

contact us

The NCSPE is available to aid interested parties with the review of current and proposed legislation. Recent successful analyses include the study of cyber and home school charter schools in California and Pennsylvania, Pre-kindergarten education in Florida, and Higher education vouchers in Colorado. Please call upon us if we can be of assistance.