

# LWVMD ACTION ALERT

## OPPOSE funding for BOOST Scholarship Program for Students in Private and Religious Schools

The State's Primary Responsibility is to Support PUBLIC SCHOOL students.



*Recent reports on the adequacy of funding for Maryland public schools gave evidence that it would require between \$2 to \$3 million in additional local, state and federal resources to adequately and equitably fund our 24 public school systems.*

**We should not be providing additional funds for private schools.**

The FY2018 budget allocated \$5.5 million for the BOOST scholarship program for students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch to attend private and religious schools that currently receive state funding for computers and textbooks. This year's budget increases the allocation to \$8,850,000. The Senate version of the budget bill keeps the allocation at this increased level of almost \$9 million.

Our best chance to reduce this diversion of funding from where it is needed most is to urge the [House Appropriations Committee](#) to eliminate or reduce this funding.

**The committee will be making decisions on**

**Friday, March 16**

- If any of the committee members below are your delegates, please contact them immediately to oppose BOOST funding.
- Starred delegates are members of the Education and Economic Development Subcommittee, and are especially important.
- If none of the members are in your district, contact the Chair and Co-Chair.

**For talking points, [click here](#) to see LWVMD testimony opposing this program.**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ACTIVISM!**