

BORRIS L. MILES STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: Criminal Justice, Health & Human Services, Natural Resources & Economic Development, Nominations and Transportation

OFFICIAL STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Borris L. Miles Statement on Voting Against SB 8 – Private School Vouchers

"Public schools are the backbones of our communities. Parents know that they can always send their kids to a public school and they are guaranteed that they will get a quality education and be put on a path to success.

"Public schools also have strict state requirements and testing benchmarks tied to the school district's success and failure. Private schools do not have these same requirements. They can discriminate against students for a number of reasons, including a disability. The majority of the students educated in urban areas, like my district are students of color. To give private schools special treatment and no-strings-attached public dollars is unconscionable.

"My vote against SB 8 is a vote to ensure we keep money in public education. State funds should not go to private schools, especially when they do not have to face the same requirements that our public schools face. This bill draws a hard line in the sand, pitting the haves against the have-nots. We need to stop this campaign to benefit affluent private schools and we need to fully fund our entire public education system.

"This bill is SCHOOL SEGREGATION: SEPARATE, BUT DEFINITELY NOT EQUAL!"