

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 17, 2025

The Honorable Phil Berger  
Senate President Pro Tempore  
16 West Jones Street, Rm. 2007  
Raleigh, NC 27601

The Honorable Destin Hall  
Speaker of the House  
16 West Jones Street, Rm. 2304  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear President Pro Tempore Berger and Speaker Hall,

We write to express our appreciation for the North Carolina General Assembly's swift passage of HB 87, the *Educational Choice for Children Act* (ECCA). Governor Stein's veto is a disappointing decision that creates uncertainty and may harm thousands of students' ability to attend the school of their choice. We respectfully urge you to override the Governor's veto as soon as possible.

We applaud the General Assembly's longstanding leadership in advancing school choice. North Carolina has consistently been at the forefront of ensuring that students have the ability to attend schools where their individual educational needs are met. The Opportunity Scholarship program, in particular, has been a resounding success and has positively transformed the lives of thousands of North Carolina children.

As you know, H.R. 1, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*, included a provision providing taxpayers with a \$1,700 tax credit if they donate to a scholarship-granting organization (SGO). These SGOs provide scholarships to help students access the schools that best meet their needs. However, due to complications with the Byrd Rule and the Senate Parliamentarian, the provision was modified so that states must now opt in to the program.

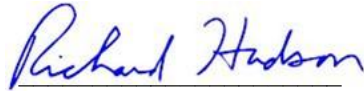
Choosing not to participate would leave millions of dollars on the table for North Carolina, as no state funds are required for a state to participate. It is simple, we want North Carolina donors to support North Carolina students, and we want all of our families and students to thrive. Governor Stein has stated that he would like further federal guidance before signing HB 87 into law. However, because the provision will not take effect until 2027, the U.S. Treasury is prioritizing tax provisions that must be implemented by the 2026 filing season. As a result, waiting for guidance will only prolong uncertainty for SGOs and hinder their ability to serve students effectively.

Thank you for your commitment to expanding school choice in our state. Overriding Governor Stein's veto will reaffirm the General Assembly's role as a leader in creating opportunities for students to succeed and prosper.

Sincerely,



Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



Pat Harrigan  
Member of Congress



Mark Harris  
Member of Congress



Addison McDowell  
Member of Congress



Tim Moore  
Member of Congress