

Third House Example Template

Hello, my name is _____ and I am a member of this great community– and a taxpayer. I am also a member of the Indiana Coalition for Public Education. A coalition of community members across the state who believe in our local public schools, which serve and welcome *all* children – no matter what.

I'm very concerned about my tax dollars being used to fund the privatization of K-12 education.

I have a question, but first I want to share some information with you.

There are only so many tax dollars available to fund all of our public services. And every Indiana public school is losing money because of privatization. There are numerous privatization holes in a very [leaky bucket of funding](#) for public schools. One very costly way is the Indiana Choice Scholarship program.

Even if no students leave their school district to use a voucher, the school district loses out on potential funds due to the way vouchers are funded from the tuition support fund. We now fund so many children, the bulk of which would never attend a public school in the first place, that whatever alleged savings may have been gained by the taxpayers via this program are now non-existent.

Over the past eight years, our local community schools could have gained \$ _____ in funding from the state if vouchers did not exist. *(Use our [tool](#) to find your local school district amount)*

To add to the financial loss, we should also factor in inflation. School funding is woefully behind as pointed out by numerous studies and financial experts. If you add in inflation, our schools have lost out on \$ _____ over the past eight years. *(Use our [tool](#) to find your local school district amount including inflation)*

When the voucher program began in 2011 it was intended for students in poverty, however, now a family of 4 with an income of \$230,000 can get a voucher. Vouchers are essentially a government subsidy for private schools. The millions of dollars going to these private schools is unaccountable. We have no idea how it is spent. There are no audits.

Rep. /Sen. _____, how do you justify spending so much money on this near-universal voucher program that has NO caps and yet underfunds our local community schools?