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about kids and education, but. . .
Follow the money

Vote NO on Amendment 1

Gov. Nathan Deal's so-called Opportunity School District
means **less opportunity** for all children.

This proposed school reform measure provides **no new resources**
to help struggling schools and students succeed.

It is a thinly veiled power grab to take over public schools
and hand them over to corporate charter operators.

Georgia Federation of Teachers, AFT • AFL-CIO

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The so-called “Opportunity School District” robs school districts of their local, state and federal funds. It undermines the finances of public schools around the state—leading to lost services for children and new costs for taxpayers.

Administrative Set Aside: There is an option to **withhold 3 percent of funds** a school would use for oversight and administrative costs. As a result, there would be fewer funds available for instruction.

Repair Costs: Local school districts will continue to foot the bill for costs and schools over which they will no longer have any control or input. Extensive repairs to buildings, maintenance and transportation will be passed on to local school districts.

Lost Economy of Scale: Over time, more and more schools will be removed from locally controlled school districts and placed into the OSD as a result of an ever-changing and subjective assessment system. As students leave the local school district to attend charter schools and others, there is a greater loss of needed funds and less funding available for students in the public schools not captured by the OSD.

Special Education: The OSD is modeled on the failed experiments in Detroit and New Orleans, which relied on major charter school expansion. In both cases, the state-created school districts have excluded and under-served students with special needs. In fact, the Southern Poverty Law Center filed a lawsuit against the state-created district in New Orleans on behalf of 4,500 students for denying appropriate services.

Waste, Fraud and Abuse: A recent report by the Center for Popular Democracy found more than \$200 million in known waste abuse and mismanagement in the charter school sector. The OSD contains none of the protections, like forensic auditing, recommended by CPD to prevent fraud.

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