

# Our kids can't afford broken promises and **FAILED EDUCATION POLICIES**



Gov. Deal's "Opportunity School District" bill pushes the same **failed policies** that **destroyed public education** and **undermined students** in New Orleans.

**Real opportunity** for Georgia's students means giving schools the **resources** and **supports** kids need to overcome barriers to success.

Under the governor's plan, the state would **take over** management of low-performing local schools—a move that has **failed** again and again in states like Louisiana and Michigan. Why are politicians pushing these **bungled reform efforts** on schools that primarily serve minority, low-income students?

The evidence shows top-down approaches, like state takeovers, **just don't work!**

- **State takeovers have failed to improve student achievement.** In New Orleans, Gov. Deal's model, student achievement continues to be near the bottom of all the parishes in Louisiana. What's more, state-run schools in Louisiana and Michigan had disproportionately high suspension and expulsion rates.
- **State takeovers get rid of local control and accountability.** There is less direct public accountability in state-run districts. Parents, educators and community members should have a say in decisions that affect the schools our children attend.
- **State takeovers encourage charter school expansion.** Like New Orleans, Georgia's Opportunity School District legislation would hand neighborhood schools over to charter companies. Many charter schools:
  - **Exclude certain students**—especially those with special needs and disabilities, and those from low-income families—by using selective admissions criteria. Charters tend to “re-segregate” schools.
  - **Sidestep many standards** that govern neighborhood public schools.

## **Tell legislators to vote NO on the Opportunity School District bill.**

# Contact your legislators

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\*\*\* These representatives did not vote for or against Charter Schools, so we are not sure where they stand on OSD.