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מכון גדליהו

ישיבה ומתיבתא תורת חיים

YESHIVA & MESIVTA TORAS CHAIM AT SOUTH SHORE

1170 WILLIAM STREET / HEWLETT, N.Y. 11557

Phones: (212) 327-1113 / (516) 374-7363

ב"ה

5 Sivan 5742

May 27, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Deputy Special Assistant
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

Sorry that we missed you at your offices on May 25th. We fully understand the pressure that you have now in ~~formulating a clear understanding and concise wording for the Tuition Tax Credit Bill~~, which will be coming before the Congress of the United States as a matter of urgency prior to their summer recess.

We wish to express our willingness to support this vital legislation and we are offering our services to you in every way possible. The entire orthodox community speaks with one voice of "Yeah" on this most important issue.

We are especially concerned with the purposes and goals that this bill intends to achieve. We speak loud and clear on this subject and we are ready to go "all out" to make sure that it is passed. The orthodox Jewish community has no other alternative but to stay in battle and fight to the end to achieve this legislation.

In view of the high cost of education and the burdensome situation that has fallen upon the shoulders of the parents to maintain and support our institutions of learning, it compels us to see this bill through to the end.

We know fully well the commitment that the President has towards this end and we are confident that with men such as yourself involved in the technical achievement of this bill, it will succeed. Looking forward to the opportunity of meeting you personally and with every good wish, I am

Most sincerely yours,


Rabbi Benjamin Kamenetzky, Dean

RBK:ca

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Gedalia Maidenbaum Preparatory School • The Heller Learning Center • The Joseph & Faye Tanenbaum Gymnasium • The Meyer Glick Memorial Study Hall
The Joseph & Faye Tanenbaum Torah Institute • Frieda Garfinkel Kindergarten



SERVING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR FIVE DECADES

Tuition Tax Credit

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1982

The Washington Post

Herblock is on vacation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Segregation Is Not the Issue

The Post's editorial against tuition tax credits ["Tuition Tax Credits in Trouble," Aug. 27] makes everyone who opposes Sen. Bill Bradley's amendments to the bill sound like an out and out racist. There are many of us who are dedicated to racial integration but who see much more than the color of a student's skin involved in this controversy. We see government control, harassment and quotas imposed on private schools that go far beyond the regulations required of public schools.

Under the Bradley amendments, which would place enforcement in the Internal Revenue Service, a private school would be guilty of discrimination unless it could prove itself innocent, a burden of proof that is a threat to its very existence (as anyone who has ever been involved with the IRS is aware.)

No one wants the government to

subsidize segregated schools, but that is not the issue in this legislation. The tuition tax credit bill is not for schools, but for parents—parents who are carrying a double burden of taxation and tuition because they exercise their basic human right to send their children to a school that reflects their own moral and religious values.

The administration bill states quite clearly that parents who send their children to schools that discriminate are not eligible for a credit. The enforcement of this provision is placed in the Justice Department, which has never been known to treat such violations lightly. The difference in enforcement by the Justice Department and enforcement by the IRS is that, in the Justice Department, the private school is considered innocent until it is found guilty. We consider this more in keeping with the American way.

Finally, those of us who have worked

long and hard for the right of all parents, black and white, to choose the education of their children deplore the fact that the passage of this legislation is being thwarted on grounds that it might be discriminatory. While we applaud the senator's concern, we feel that the reality is just the opposite: This legislation is one step to provide black and white parents of limited income the same right of choice that the rich have always had. A recent New York Times/CBS News Poll indicated that blacks—by a 60 to 32 margin—feel the same way: they want tuition tax credits.

We also feel that to hold up this legislation is to ensure that the discrimination inherent in the present government monopoly and control of education will continue.

SISTER RENEE OLIVER, O.S.U.
Associate Director,
Citizens for Educational Freedom

Washington

Preservation Copy

THE SUBTLETY OF APPROVAL

Church-schools are operating without government approval or accreditation. They do so without apology or regard of criticism by local and state officials. For officials openly to prohibit religious practices of fundamentalist churches would evoke public outcry. Civil disturbances undoubtedly could emerge in defiance of a government blatantly opposed to a people who want to serve their God. But what should concerned bureaucrats do? Those people are indoctrinating their children with beliefs which cause them to be at variance with secular society. Isn't that bad? How shall the public benefit from the presence of peculiar people who do not want to do what the secular majority practices?

America never has required a regimented people. Diversity has plied the crosswalks of America's education from its inception. This "melting pot" of the world teems with cultural distinctives. Peculiarities are not counted dangerous to general national strength unless they are at variance with civil tranquility. A standard benchwork is applied: do their practices violate the physical life or property of others or undermine the foundations upon which freedom rests? Unless they do the people are free to practice their beliefs. Or are they?

Today there seems to be judicial, legislative and humanistic confusion about what is good for society. Most lawmakers of yesterday were guided by a sense of perspective resulting from exposure to Biblical principles set forth as absolutes for human interaction. Scripturally based teaching was required in all law schools prior to 1900. Thus, for almost 150 years, lawmakers and judges intuitively knew what was right or wrong about social conduct. Parents who taught Biblical concepts were regarded as patriotic citizens. Men who stole property were hanged or punished. Men who killed earned that same penalty. Moral perverts were incarcerated away from children.

The federal constitution was penned by men whose insight into human nature seems unparalleled today. How did they spring forth such concepts theretofore unexperienced by

the cultural world? From where did they draw the ideal of checks and balances against branches of government? From where did they understand that justice and judgement need a swift and fair trial? From where did they garnish the thought that from God men have certain inalienable rights? They did not have to form those concepts from scratch. They emerged from the souls of men whose bosoms had received seeds of righteousness, judgement, and equity from Biblical learning.

The majority of those men who formed the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, the Bill of Rights, were men who had sat under the influence of Christianity's way of life. Grandmothers, fathers, and elder siblings practiced before them a sense of awe and adherence toward God. While those men grew up, they were familiar with the basic Biblical principles which any casual observer can identify permeating the founding laws of our land.

What has happened since then? Justice seems so very slow if at all practiced; crimes of violence are unchecked in every community; National educational institutions are plagued with distractions which impede instruction; legislative bodies flounder in abstract complexities that thwart establishment of equity among industries and consumers, etc.

Now back to the first paragraph, last sentence: "How shall the public benefit from the presence of peculiar people who do not want to do what the majority practices?"

Emerging are peculiar men and women who seem to understand human nature. They know that social tranquility necessitates general public adherence to some sort of code of conduct. They believe a yardstick must be displayed for public application against civil action. This is not a new thing. All societies adopt guidelines for interaction and correction of those who do not respect life and property of others.

Moreover these same people of understanding astutely realize that their particular code of conduct is not practiced in general. Society basically does not appropriate personal benchmarks set forth by Scripture. But these emerging peculiar people do not openly attempt to gain physical control of society; that would violate their code.

What they are quietly doing is inculcating into their children a set of values identical to those which gave foundation to America. They believe foremost that God requires their obedience to His laws. They both fear and rejoice in the realization that God will establish their ways according to His grace, mercy, and judgement over the affairs of men. They are aware that their lifestyle is at variance with many aspects of society. They purposely conduct themselves differently for two reasons: they believe God is not pleased with people who disregard Him as judge of their conduct and they observe and reject the results secular practices have effected on society. They conclude from history and personal conviction that the Christian lifestyle (yardstick) which America currently needs for survival can be accepted if observed as effective in the lives of those who "wear the yardstick."

Thus they purposely set out to train their children to be leaders who will practice distinctively Christian values. They do so with a sense of exclusion of activities and consumptions accepted by Non-Christians. Their justification is founded in Biblical commands to train up a child by exposing him to those entities which will characterise his life as an adult. Drawing from commandments in Scripture, they do not want to force their beliefs on others who may be offended by them. Likewise, they do not want the beliefs of non-Christians forced on their children.

Their reasoning is simple: "Let us alone to teach our children to fellowship with the Lord and we will let you alone to reject Him." At the same time, these peculiar people are persuaded that the only safe future for their children and grandchildren is re-emergence of men and women who are adherents to the values which gave birth to the Constitution.

Their fear though, is that society will seek to strangle their way of life. Some well-intentioned and some maliciously motivated elements disdain the Christian value system of moral restraint, absolutes, and justice. For some reasons, often difficult to identify, many public educators, civil authorities, and sociologists reject the concept that Christians ought to be able to train their children to perpetuate the Christian life style. Efforts are being

made to prohibit removal of children from established government educational institutions in favor of enrollment in church-schools. Physical restraint usually is not evoked, at least right away. Persuasion to conform is applied in the form of legislatively enforced educational standards prescribed by secular government agencies. Usually standards are in the form of requirements that all children be taught only by teachers who are certified and approved by the state, or that children be educated only by materials approved by government.

Therein lies the death knoll to Christianity as a practiceable life style. The peculiar people are doomed to oblivion under such restraints. How can a secular non-Christian impart values about which he knows very little or openly rejects? To place children under tutorship of Christ-rejectors is to persuade those children away from Biblical values so dear to them and the souls of their parents.

America has not suddenly rejected the Biblically based values on which she was founded. Erosion came in increments: a doubt here. A question there. A scoff. A ridicule. Little by little imputers of knowledge affected the next generation until today the general public scarcely (if at all) accepts or even understands the Biblical based Constitution and its foundational concepts.

Secular imposed standards on all children disregard the value of their peculiarities. They lock-step all future generations into the patterns currently practiced. What a paradox. Men are crying out for solutions to economic, educational, political and moral perplexities, yet reject the remedy history has demonstrated effective; to train a new generation which thinks as did the founding fathers.

To impose on future leaders the seeds of today's maladies is no remedy. Seeds bear forth their kind. Children forced to accept secular beliefs and practices of grownups and peers, will bring to fruit those same beliefs and practices at adulthood. Current non-Biblical educational standards and guidelines formulated by government agencies can do no more

than perpetuate the same perplexities now plaguing our society. What is needed in America can not come from "approval" by educators steeped in their own lifestyle—a lifestyle void of the Scriptural benchmark for social conduct.

Teacher certification, State license of church-schools, Approval of curriculum--All are futile efforts that only bring further conformity to current social problems. Fire begets fire. To impose on all children the absence of Biblical foundational benchmarks is to render the nation lame, invalid, and emaciated. How can she endure? Death stalks a nation when it forbids a people counted peculiar because they accept as absolute the values on which their culture was founded.

The most dangerous thing America can do is forbid perpetuation of the Christian lifestyle. No one will outright advocate that but the result of bureaucratic approval is identical. Forcing all children to sit at the feet of only state "approved," "certified," or "licensed" teachers is slowly to strangle the breath from Christianity, the fiber of America. Christian adults who must attend secular "certifying" institutions are forced to accept and voice acquiescence to non-Christian values and then agree to expose their children to such values. Each such exposure is a wild seed that sprouts in the mind of the once-peculiar children, causing them to become hybrids. They in turn share those "hybrid" concepts one with another until their peculiarity is no longer evident. They are assimilated. Their lifestyle is identical to the culture that "approves" them. And so are perpetuated the plagues of society. Gone then is the benchmark that could guide America out of her self-imposed quarries.

*Tuition
Tax
Credits*

November 10, 1982

Msgr. Thomas Gallagher
Secretary for Education
United States Catholic Conference
1312 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Msgr. Gallagher:

Inception of the new congressional session is just a few weeks away. Plans are being made to conduct an extensive effort to insure passage of a favorable Tuition Tax Credit Bill. Past experience has demonstrated the need for a more tightly knit coalition which can pressure reticent senators/congressmen to support the President's intent for an equitable bill for families which span denominational distinctives.

Obviously there, of necessity, must be some type of foundational concepts upon which Fundamentalists and Catholics can agree and overtly support. Fundamentalists have no reservation about supporting the original bill as introduced by the President. However, the Bradley amendments are intolerable. Whereas Senators Packwood and Moynihan openly supported the Bradley concepts, they in effect killed any initiative Fundamentalists would have expressed toward passage. The next result was "no bill."

There seems no justification in reintroduction of the Tuition Tax Credit bill in 1983 if we are going to "blueprint" over 1982 strategy. Realistically, Packwood and Moynihan hurt the bill. They just never did get on our philosophical team. Perhaps the best approach now would be selection of new sponsors whom we can confidently assume will champion the bill in a format consistent with the President's intent. Furthermore, it seems essential that the U.S. Catholic Conference put unrelentless pressure on Packwood and Moynihan not only to support the President's bill, but additionally to oppose "Bradley-type" amendments.

It is the desire of Fundamentalists to see evidence that the Catholic sector is indeed equally concerned about passage of a "liveable" bill. What can your organizational structure do to assure continuous pressure for such a bill? Perhaps we can discuss this issue when we meet with Bob Baldwin on November 19th.

Respectfully,

Ronald E. Johnson
Ronald E. Johnson, Ph.D.
Vice-President of Development

REJ:jo



Accelerated Christian Education, Inc.

Donald R. Howard, Ph.D.
President

Ronald E. Johnson, Ed.S.
Vice President
Development

Daniel Maddalena
Vice President
Finance

Lewis Bridges
Vice President
Extension

2600 Ace Lane

Lewisville, Texas 75067

(214) 462-1776

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1982

Mr. Robert E. Baldwin
Citizens for Education Freedom
c/o LEARN, INC.
10369 B. Democracy Lane
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Bob:

I want to thank you for your leadership on Tuition Tax Credit legislation. While all those who have worked with us have played a major role, your participation has been indispensable.

Without your extensive efforts to draw together the coalition, work with us in drafting the legislation, and help coordinate the legislative activity with the outside groups, Tuition Tax Credits would not have made the progress that we have to date.

We still have a long way to go but I am confident that, with leaders like you, we have launched a campaign that will not stop this side of victory.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

August 13, 1982

Mr. Robert E. Baldwin
Citizens for Educational Freedom
c/o LEARN, Inc.
10369 B. Democracy Lane
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Bob:

I want to thank you for your leadership on Tuition Tax Credit legislation. While all those who have worked with us have played a major role, your participation has been indispensable.

Without your extensive efforts to draw together the coalition, work with us in drafting the legislation, and help coordinate the legislative activity with the outside groups, Tuition Tax Credits would not have made the progress that we have to date.

We still have a long way to go but I am confident that, with leaders like you, we have launched a campaign that will not stop this side of victory.

Sincerely,

Morton Blackwell

MB/vs

Here's your letter to me
Change as necessary. This
will not be used as a part of
my efforts on Tax credits, only to
show that I do have some influence
AND Am competent.

Thanks Bob

Mrs. Mae Duggan
12571 Northwinds Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63141

Dear Montom: June 28, 1982

We all want to thank
you for the magnificent job
you did on the Tuxton Tax
Credit Act. It is great and
I know that it was very difficult.

We thank you for keeping us
informed and sending the material.

Did you know that a Treasury
"official" spoke to the Senate Finance
Com and told them that the
Administration did not want

2.

the T.T.C. bill attached to
the Major Tax package? This caused
Packwood to change his mind and
also Sen Danforth was not en-
couraged to amend the tax package.
It seems that this is an odd
way for the Treasury to act. Are
they doing this on their own? Or is
it really the policy of the Admin-
istration to block this movement
to include the T.T.C. in the
Tax package?

I feel that it really should be
in the package. What do you think?
all best wishes,

Gratefully

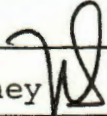
Noel (Duggan)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
ROUTE SLIP

TO Bob Carleson/Ann Fairbanks

✓ Mike Uhlmann/Bill Barr

TO: Morton
Blackwell

FROM Naomi Sweeney 

DATE 7/13/82

- Take necessary action
- Approval or signature
- Comment
- Prepare reply
- Discuss with me
- For your information
- See remarks below

REMARKS

SUBJECT: Attached Treasury testimony on
Tuition Tax Credit bill

I would appreciate it if you would make sure
that the appropriate White House offices get
to see this testimony. I don't know where
else I should be sending it in the White
House except your offices.

SPECIAL

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



From the desk of..... RABBI MENACHEM LUBINSKY

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

file
Regards!
M
791-1800
↓
AGUDATH ISRAEL OF AMERICA

THE JEWISH PRESS

THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT ANGLLO-JEWISH WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
Copies: The JEWISH PRESS INC. 1982 "Teach for the War, O-L-ee, That I May Walk in the Truth" Volume 88-11

EDITORIALS ...

(Continued from Page 5)

President Moves Forward On Tuition Tax Credits

We may still be a long way from saying thank you to President Ronald Reagan for tuition tax credits, but the signals that he has been sending us are extremely positive and we are grateful. On June 22nd, Mr. Reagan sent Congress his Educational Opportunity and Equity Act of 1982, fulfilling a campaign pledge and subsequent oft repeated commitments. The Administration's initiative is praiseworthy since it was drafted with extreme sensitivity emphasizing that only those who deserve to be recognized for exercising their legitimate right to send their children to private schools should benefit from tuition tax credits.

For President Reagan, tuition tax credits is consistent with his belief in traditional values. It augurs well for our democracy when a President understands that parents have an inherent right to pursue an education for their children which is in tandem with their ethnic and religious background.

Now that the bill has been introduced in Congress, it is up to our Senators and Congressmen to act. "The Jewish Press" has consistently supported tuition tax credits even when the Carter White House was against it. But now that for the first time tuition tax credits has the unequivocal support of our President, we should garner all our energies to pass this tax credit bill. We commend Agudath Israel of America for taking the lead role in this historic effort and support the message that Rabbi Menachem Lubinsky of Agudath Israel gave the President at the White House on June 22nd that: "Orthodox Jews stand united behind you in this historic effort."

Now is the time to act! Write your Congressmen and Senators today. Help make tuition tax credits a reality for the parents of children in our yeshivos.

Citizens for Educational Freedom

Suite 854 • Washington Bldg. • 15th and New York Ave., N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone (202) 638-6423

June 29, 1982

Executive Committee

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Chairman, Board of Trustees

Mrs. C. Bradford Lundy, Mich.
President

James Condit, Ohio
First Vice President

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Dr. Philip Elve, Mich.

Paul C. Mecklenborg, Ohio
James L. J. Plé, Penn.

William Todia, Ohio
John J. Watson, Penn.

Mrs. Ann Richardson, Tx.

MEMORANDUM

TO : MORTON BLACKWELL
FROM : ROBERT E. BALDWIN *REB*
RE : TUITION TAX CREDIT BILL

On Monday and Tuesday of this week we surveyed Senate members of the Finance Committee and House members of the Ways and Means Committee. It is our perception that the best way to get the tuition tax credit bill passed in this Congress is to attach it to the revenue bill as a means of mitigating the revenue impact involved.

In talking to Philip Morrison in Senator Dole's office we find that the Senator is reluctant to follow this procedure. Obviously no one is willing to go over his head.

However, further discussion with Philip Morrison revealed that delaying the implementation date of the tax credit bill might make the procedure more acceptable to Senator Dole.

We, therefore, urge that the President call Senator Dole, personally, and ask him to offer the tuition tax credit bill as an amendment to the revenue bill.

File
TCC

MEMORANDUM FOR HP

FROM: SP

RE: BRIEFING FOR BELL MEETING

It is the opinion of most of the people with whom I spoke, that most will be accomplished from the meeting if we start off on a positive note. This might best be accomplished by indicating our support of and willingness to work for tuition tax credits. Bell should be pinned down in this regard with the following questions:

1. What is your time frame? When can we expect a bill?

2. Who within the department is responsible for drafting legislation?

Further questioning should start out with the general and lead to the more specific.

1. Mr. Secretary, what is your philosophy concerning the role of the Federal government in education?

a. What programs must absolutely, in your opinion, be maintained on a Federal level?

b. Which of these programs can be decentralized? Is it necessary to have a cabinet-level department or a quasi-independent Foundation to house these programs?

2. Given the fact that test scores have declined in inverse ratio to the increase in Federal spending, why did you not propose larger cuts in your own budget? And why did you not offer a more cogent defense of the President's budget cuts?

a. Why is it that at no time were Republican members of the budget and education committees involved in decisions as to where cuts could be made and why were cuts made on a % basis rather than according to merit?

b. You are quoted as telling a Congressional committee that you believed that the cuts would impact on the quality of education. Seeing as increased spending in the past has had a negative impact on national test scores, why could you not have brought forth an argument which would have explained how, with a reduced budget, you were going to target programs which have proven to be successful and cut off those programs which have not been successful.

c. Why is it that you continue to fund bilingual education programs which many believe have had a negative impact, further isolating from mainstream America those very children they were meant to help?

Bell briefing
Page two

d. Why haven't program officers been given instructions to cut off funding to programs which have not proven their merit?

3. Comments have been passed on to us that you feel the criticism of your stewardship has been unfair as you inherited many grants from the previous administration.

a. Is it not true that many of these grants could be terminated on the basis that the product of the previous year's award does not merit the continuation or that the purpose of the grant is not consistent with the best interest of the Federal government?

b. What about new grants which have gone forward since you took over?

1) NOW LDEF

2) AECT (NEA)

c. Why haven't excepted authority personnel at NIE, many of whom have held their positions for more than 10 years, been removed or replaced? (85-100 people)

1) This has been a hotbed of left-wing political activity. One such person is Arthur Melmed who has been there since the 60's and is now in charge of the new technology initiative which is being carried forward with discretionary funds. (\$16M)

2) Mr. Secretary, what is your perspective on the development of software by the Federal Government?

3) Why has a major contract (2 years, \$855,000) for the development of software and training been awarded to an offshoot of the National Education Association whose ideas for education are in such contrast to those of the President?

4) Why have individuals known for their pro-busing stance been given NIE grants to conduct studies on desegregation, and yet anti-busing scholars, such as David Armour, been turned down? I thought that this Administration was against busing?

5) And why when someone from the excepted service is let go - May Chung - was she then extended by one of your Assistant Secretaries (Don Senese) and given authority to review research. It is my understanding that Senese is asking that she be extended for another year.

4. Mr. Secretary, much of your rhetoric has been good, but we have seen few policies which would implement that rhetoric. During your confirmation hearings, for example, you promised Sen. East that there would be a fundamental change in the role of the Federal government in funding and disseminating controversial psycho-social programs. You have stated on several occasions that it is your belief that there is no appropriate role for the Federal government in supporting values education. And yet even now the National Diffusion network continues to be involved in this area.

a. As an example, the program "New Model Me". Students keep diaries, do role play in the class, personal questions are asked on questionnaires, etc.

b. Career bureaucrats are not going to make changes because there has been no clear directive. What is needed is a policy from you. In terms of dissemination a distinction must be clearly made between cognitive and affective programs. In addition to parental objections to these programs, articles have appeared in Education Week and the Wall Street Journal by leading educators such as Richard Baer of Cornell, critical of values education.

1) Are you willing to issue policy directives that grants dealing with values and decision making will no longer be approved?

2) Are you willing to prevent the further dissemination of these programs?

5. Are you willing to make a change in the basic focus of grants awards redirecting philosophy away from the consideration of "What is disadvantaged?" toward "What is excellence?"

a. Are you willing to order that your project officers give top consideration to programs which encourage family concern and involvement?

6. Why haven't you required your political appointees to be involved in the development of policy rather than in busy work? Political appointees should establish and enforce priorities for grants within their areas.

7. In your own office it is a career bureaucrat (Mary Jean Letendre who works for Ilam Hertzler) who screens what you see and hear. It is necessary that political appointees, not career bureaucrats, be involved in sensitive policy

Bell briefing
Page four

decisions. If we promise not to deluge you with trivia, can you guarantee that our memoranda regarding specific concerns will reach you and be responded to?

8. Political appointees should be conservative and chosen for their commitment to the policies and priorities of the Reagan administration rather than to the education community.

9. The special concerns office should be abolished. According to their own weekly reports they spend most of their time meeting with groups and individuals whose policies and priorities are contrary to the goals of the President. (Examples: National Council on the Aging, United States Student Association, National Student Education Fund, Americans for Indian Opportunity which is run by LaDonna Harris).

10. To sum up, are you willing to bite the bullet and be more than just a caretaker? Will you do those things necessary to bring about the fundamental changes in the department and work toward its elimination?

Insiders Bushwhack Tuition Tax Credits

Donald Lambro

Recent in-fighting over the wording of an internal White House position paper on President Reagan's tuition tax-credit proposal reveals how some players on the Reagan team seem to be marching to a different drummer.



Internal disagreements over the eight-page "Issue Update," prepared by presidential aide Kevin Hopkins, meant that the paper's persuasive arguments could not be handed out at an important White House Meeting with 25 key national leaders, called last month to build public support for the proposal.

Ed Gray, who heads the White House Office of Policy Information, had sought speedy approval of Hopkins' well-researched paper, which argues in behalf of "the philosophical underpinnings" of the president's tuition tax-credit plan. But the briefing paper's hardline tone and its attack on the public schools ignited deeply held objections from Gary Jones, Reagan's nominee for the post of Under-secretary of Education.

Jones' bitter opposition led to a hastily called conference with Gray and four White House aides to iron out departmental objections. Originally, Jones wanted major portions of the document deleted, arguing that it seriously exaggerated problems in the public schools. But after the paper's language had been softened somewhat, Jones signaled that he could accept it.

The next day, however, Jones sur-

prised Gray by unexpectedly refusing to give the paper his approval. The language, he maintained, was still far too hostile to the public schools. This sudden reversal only served to feed lingering suspicions and distrust among some White House aides that Jones' opposition to the tuition tax credit while he was a member of Virginia's Fairfax County School Board had not totally changed.

Like his boss, Education Secretary Terrel Bell, Jones built his career in the nation's public-school system. And while he now professes to back the tuition tax credit, some departmental officials believe it is a lackluster support, bereft of any deep philosophical commitment. Indeed, departmental insiders say that a news briefing Jones gave on the administration's bill lacked any of the Reaganite enthusiasm for this radical reform to strengthen pluralism, academic achievement and competition in American education.

But Jones was not alone in his criticism of the White House issue paper. Treasury Assistant Secretary John "Buck" Chapoton, a tax attorney from Houston, took sharp issue with one paragraph that conveyed Reagan's strong distaste for the so-called "tax expenditure" argument made by tax-cut foes who say the Treasury cannot afford the loss of revenue.

That paragraph declares that "the idea that when the government provides its citizens with a credit against their taxes it

is 'spending government funds' is wholly inappropriate. Such a notion implies that the government has prior claim to all of the taxpayer's earnings, and that whenever the government permits him, through a tax credit or a tax-rate cut, to keep a little more of his income, it is 'giving away' federal money. By contrast, the president believes that an individual has first claim to what he earns, and that the government can tax its citizens only within strict limits."

This is vintage Reaganism. But Chapoton wanted the paper to be neutral on the tax-expenditure issue. "Buck isn't comfortable with this (language)," a Treasury aide conveyed to a White House official. Replied the official, "Well, Buck wasn't elected president." In the end, language was added saying "that all tax credits are (not necessarily) of equal merit . . . each must be individually judged as to whether it is an appropriate form of tax relief."

Gray was eventually able to ameliorate the objections from Jones and Chapoton and to issue the internal White House position paper on July 13, 22 days after Reagan had submitted his proposal to Congress. Yet the delay in negotiating official administration philosophy with those whose views appear to differ from the president's resulted in a loss of momentum in the campaign for critically needed support among key Reaganite constituencies.

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The Talcum Dust Battle

Arnold Irvine

The dispute became so hair-raising that Mr. Baker decided to settle it by building a new, \$9,000 beauty parlor in the Executive Office Building, not far from the

The talcum dust has settled on the

W. Times

1/2/83.

Tuition
Tax
Credits

Study urges voucher use for schools

BY A WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF WRITER

A presidential advisory commission on school finance has urged Congress to use an existing \$3 billion federal aid program and private school tuition tax credits to give poor families a choice other than local public schools for their children.

The Reagan-appointed panel proposed giving cash vouchers directly to low-income parents instead of continuing formula grants to school districts already eligible under the Department of Education's largest elementary and secondary school aid program, formerly known as Title I.

The study of school financing was required by Congress in 1978. The panel's final report was submitted to Reagan and Congress Friday.

"Parents have the primary right to determine the type of school in which their children will be educated and the primary responsibility for educating their children," the panel declared in its statement of objective.

"While the panel acknowledges the need for a great deal of careful thought, particularly at the state and local level, as to the details of how a voucher system would be implemented, we find the theory of voucherized education to be in harmony with our objectives of returning educational control to the most local levels and even to the homes of America's school children," the report added.

By giving the poorest families vouchers worth about \$500 per year that could be used to enroll their children in public, parochial or private schools of their choice, the panel claimed, "competition (would be increased) among the schools making the public schools more responsive to parental desires. Vouchers would tend to redistribute power to individual schools and families."

Only Virginia state Sen. Wiley F. Mitchell Jr., R-Alexandria, voted against the final report. But four other panelists joined Mitchell in filing a minority dissent of the voucher and tuition tax credit recommendations.

The panel was unanimous in its other proposals: to dismantle the Education Department, to consolidate all remaining federal categorical school aid programs into block grants, to turn back federal tax revenues collected for education programs to the states, to increase private-sector financial support for public education and to eliminate federal regulations interfering with local school discipline or teacher certification requirements.

The minority report called "the entire concept of vouchers ... a quagmire of uncertainty, neither the practical implementation nor the educational value of which has ever been proven or even adequately tested."

By restricting voucher eligibility only to the "very poorest" families, the minority claimed two-thirds of the disadvantaged children now benefited by federal aid would lose grant assistance.

John Coons, a former Carter appointee to the panel and longtime advocate of education vouchers, said, "Families that can already afford to choose among different schools for their children are constantly showing the validity of the voucher concept."

President Carter's appointees to the 14-member advisory panel were dismissed by Reagan when he took office. They were replaced by a new group of business people, educators and elected officials under the chairmanship of Connaught C. Marshner, director of family policy for the Free Congress Research and Education Foundation, a leading New Right think tank.

Also sent to: Leroy Corey, Peter Keisler, Robert Polack,
and John L. Ryan

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 20, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR LOU BARNETT

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL *MB*

SUBJECT: Current Status

I enclose for your information the first section of the Washington Post for Saturday, December 18, 1982.

You and I have had a number of discussions regarding trends. As you can see from the Post, the Administration is under a sustained attack. They are singling out those they perceive as the strongest conservatives.

One indication of the bias is that the Post here, as repeatedly in the past, zaps Bill Olson for receiving \$19,000 in per diem last year. In the continuation story, the Post favorably mentions Legal Services Board Director Howard Dana who has been fighting to retain much of the abusive policy of Legal Services. What the Post has yet to mention in several stories which mention Olson's remuneration is that Dana has received many thousands of dollars more remuneration than Bill has.

My view is that we must go on the offensive rather than allowing the opposition the luxury of picking the ground for every fight.

Enclosure

Northeastern University

360 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02115

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Political Science

October 4, 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C.

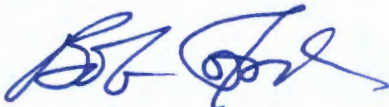
Dear Mr. Blackwell:

I am writing to indicate that I will be preparing an article for publication in National Review about the constitutionality of tuition tax credits for parents who send their children to private elementary or secondary schools.

As you know from my book and the paper which I gave in June, I believe that non-partisan aid to such schools does not violate the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. Although my research will be the basis for the article, I thought you might want to bring other information to my attention. The article I think will be timely and should appear in National Review some time in January, 1983.

Thank you for your kind letter of July 28th. I hope your summer was a pleasant one despite the work which the President's conservative social agenda must have brought to your office.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Cord
Professor

RLC/rc

*Send
our
material
on Tuition
Tax credits.
That is, all
with public
state funds
including
The NRB
Speech
1/31
RLC*



NATIONAL COALITION FOR TUITION TAX CREDITS

1435 G Street, N.W., Suite 854, Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 638-6469

August 4, 1982

TO : MORTON BLACKWELL
FROM : ROBERT E. BALDWIN *REB*
RE : ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONVENTION

The enclosed letter to the President went directly to the President at an earlier date. However, ASCI has not as yet had a response from the White House.

The convention in Anaheim, California on October 21 and 22 will be the largest Christian School convention ever held. This group is strongly supportive of the President and his Tuition Tax Credit Bill.

His attendance at this meeting will provide the President with a platform to show support for Tuition Tax Credits before a non-Catholic group and thus diffuse the Catholic issue. It will also allow the President the opportunity to explain the Administration's position on the tax exempt status of schools that discriminate. ASCI is publicly and strongly opposed to discrimination and does not agree with the Bob Jones position. However, they are also very fearful of the corrective legislation proposed by the Administration. They feel somewhat betrayed.

This meeting could provide an opportune time for the President to clarify his anti-discrimination position while at the same time protecting schools from undue government harassment.

Christian schools were in the forefront of the Christian Rights' mobilization. They will continue to be a powerful force as they grow at the rate of three per day. If the President neglects to speak to this group he is missing perhaps the best opportunity to mend fences with some of the Christian groups.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to give me a call.

gs

Opponents Charge Tuition Tax Credit Would Give Private Pupils an Edge

By Charles R. Babcock
Washington Post Staff Writer

Private school students would get triple the federal aid of many urban public school students by 1984 if the Reagan administration's tuition tax credit bill passes, opponents of the measure charge.

A coalition of public school lobbyists said the administration proposal would raise private school aid from \$43 per student in the 1980-81 school year to \$329 per student in 1984-85.

At the same time, administration proposals to reduce other federal aid to education would cut in half the per pupil expenditure in 65 urban districts in 29 states, from \$206 in 1980-81 to \$105 in 1984-1985, they contend.

The study counted only direct aid to schools, such as money for extra teachers for disadvantaged children or special services for the handicapped. It did not include food aid, such as subsidized lunches.

Locally, in Fairfax County, the study shows that direct public school aid would drop from \$115 to \$100 per student over the same period, while private aid would jump from \$13 to \$302 per student.

Opponents released the study Wednesday as the Senate Finance Committee tried to approve the bill. Tuition tax credit backers, such as Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.), say the proposal would merely equalize federal support for public and private education.

Robert Smith, executive director of the Council for American Private Education, challenged the figures. He said he wondered where the study got its figures on the current amount of federal aid to private schools since he knows no one who collects the data. He said also amendments to cut the cost of the proposal would make the study's final figures "way off."

Final consideration of the bill was postponed because the committee was busy with the administration's \$98.3 billion tax bill and some Democratic members expressed concern about its anti-discrimination clauses.

Sen. Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.), the committee chairman, has indicated that he will propose amending the bill to cut its cost by reducing the maximum credit from \$500 to \$300 per child and by lowering the ceiling on family income eligible for the full credit. An aide to Sen. Bill Bradley (D-N.J.) said yesterday he will offer an amendment to ensure the Internal Revenue Service, as well as the Justice Department, has power to enforce the anti-discrimination provisions.

The authors of the aid study, the Council of the Great City Schools and the American Association of School Administrators, acknowledged that adding federal food aid to the public and private school totals might make them more equal. But they said the estimated difference in direct aid shows that the administration proposal "is one more avenue

for taking from the poor and giving to the rich, a federal approach that is as ill conceived as it is deplorable."

Backers of the concept said the study figures are misleading because the aid to private students would be to parents, not schools. They noted that many private school students attend parochial or other schools in the inner cities, not exclusive prep academies.

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lished herein

ons programs. The Democrats usually more vocal in attacking the years.

W. Times 4/8/83

file Tuition Tax credit

safety



President Reagan is greeted by Monsignor John Meyers yesterday at the National Catholic Education Association meeting. Reagan vowed to fight for his tuition tax credit plan. UPI

Reagan promises to fight for tuition tax credit plan

BY A WASHINGTON TIMES STAFF WRITER

President Reagan told a meeting of Catholic educators yesterday he will fight for approval of a scaled-back tuition tax credit plan Congress rejected last year and seems reluctant to pass now.

"I know there has been some talk that maybe I'm strong on rhetoric or that I'm not really doing any physical pushing for it," Reagan told 3,500 members of the National Catholic Education Association. "Well, let me tell you. Our proposal is on Capitol Hill again and, like Teddy Roosevelt at San Juan, I'm going to charge up that hill until we get a victory."

The president's proposal would grant tax credits of up to \$300 per year to parents of private school students. Reagan urged the educators to support a planned voucher system enabling parents of disadvantaged chil-

dren to choose between private or public education.

A third aspect of the plan would enable parents to save a tax-free \$1,000 per year for college expenses.

Calling for "healthy competition among schools," the president said, "At any time that we settle for a monopoly on education, then we settle for the evils that go with a monopoly."

Reagan's proposal, like similar plans that have been offered by past administrations, has been criticized by public school officials and teachers as harmful to public education.

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., a past supporter of tax breaks for parents of private school students, has said chances for passing this year's proposal have been hurt by large budget deficits.



Prepared by: NAE Office of Public Affairs, 1430 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone 202-628-7911
Robert P. Dugan, Jr., Director/Forest D. Montgomery, Counsel/Richard Cizik, Researcher

Washington, DC / April, 1983
Volume V, Number 4

Dear Evangelical Friend:

Nearly everyone must know that President Ronald Reagan addressed NAE's 41st annual convention on March 8, in Florida. The least controversial assessment of his speech is that it provoked controversy. The understatement of the year. Many commentators took umbrage that the President, heaven forbid, publicly affirmed his faith. He spoke not merely of a vague divine providence, but of the Lord Jesus.

We applaud the President for his political courage. There is no constitutional requirement that he hide his light under a bushel. Evangelicals would not object to any President's expressing sincere religious beliefs. Why do others? The President pointedly and properly asserted the Judeo-Christian heritage as the bedrock of political freedom, in contrast to modern-day secularism.

PRESIDENT'S BASIC CONVICTION While the New York Times gave front page coverage to the Orlando speech, columnist Anthony Lewis on an inside page referred to it as outrageous and primitive. He was particularly incensed that the President developed the theme of sin in the world, calling it an application of "a simplistic theology -- one in fact rejected by most theologians." Perhaps Lewis is unaware that liberal theology is declining while evangelical theology is ascending. The columnist apparently would like the President to limit himself to ambiguous references to God, generously conceding that any President has the right to give "uplifting talks about moral or spiritual questions."

President Reagan's discussion of the reality of righteousness and evil in the world represents a basic conviction. In our judgment, acceptance of the biblical teaching about human nature is essential for any realistic political philosophy. Incidentally, as he appraised the totalitarian powers and specifically Soviet morality, the President did not whitewash the United States as being without flaw. He acknowledged this nation's legacy of evil, that of slavery and racial discrimination. Was the President simply pandering to his evangelical audience for political purposes, as some have alleged? We don't think so. We suggest that such pundits ought to ask themselves whether it

is possible that the President really believes what he is saying. We respect Ronald Reagan's seeking to translate his deepest convictions into political positions, something we've been trying to get evangelicals to do.

THE
PRESIDENT'S
PLEA

It would be foolish or naive to deny that political considerations entered White House advisors' minds when they encouraged the President to accept NAE's invitation. Anything a President says, or anywhere he goes, carries political overtones. Early topics in the address were predictable enough -- and gratifying. The President touched on morality and sex, family relationships, voluntary prayer in schools, and the widespread destruction of innocent life through abortion. He expressed hope at seeing spiritual awakening and moral renewal coming to America. Finally, he made a plea for strong national defense and a continuing policy of deterrence, rather than a nuclear freeze at current levels of military strength. The President did not assume, but asked for evangelical support. While lacking scientific polling data, we estimate that, of evangelicals who have made up their minds, three of four support the President's position on national defense. Of course that could change, one way or the other. Evangelicals should be communicating their views to their Senators and Representative, individually.

RESOLUTION ON
SENTENCING
REFORM

America's prison system simply has not worked. Awareness of this prompted an NAE resolution urging churches to get involved in prison ministries and supporting corrective legislation. In a stirring convention luncheon speech, Prison Fellowship's Charles Colson, recipient of NAE's "Layman of the Year" award, praised NAE's leadership on the issue. Here is the resolution that evoked his enthusiastic approval.

"America's prisons now have far more inmates than they were designed to hold. A recent federal study revealed that this overcrowding results in discipline problems, increased violence, illness and suicides. According to the FBI, three-quarters of those released from prison are re-arrested within four years. It is thus evident that the prison experience is more often than not destructive rather than rehabilitating. Criminal offenders should be punished as a matter of simple justice. However, the punishment should advance the public interest and, whenever possible, provide restitution to the innocent victim. Dangerous criminals must be imprisoned to protect society. However, half of those in prison have been convicted of non-violent offenses. As an alternative or supplement to incarceration, biblically-based sanctions such as restitution would benefit the victim of the crime and society in general, as well as help to rehabilitate the offender. Incidentally, the cost of this approach would be only a fraction of incarceration."

To implement this needed reform, the NAE resolution urges the enactment of state and federal legislation such as the "Sentencing Improvement Act" soon to be introduced in Congress by Senators Sam Nunn (D-GA) and William L. Armstrong (R-CO).

NAE TAKES
OFFICIAL NEW
POSITION

With 91% of the delegates voting in favor, NAE by official resolution declared its support of tuition tax credits for non-public education. The action was an historic reversal, for ten years ago probably more than 91% of evangelicals would have opposed such educational credits, seeing them as a Roman Catholic strategy to secure parochial aid. A carefully worded resolution shows a balanced concern for all education. Here is the rationale for NAE's new position.

"The NAE affirms its support of quality public education, encourages Christians to teach in the public schools, and urges Christian parents to work toward improving such schools. However, we recognize that many parents, exercising their God-given right and responsibility to educate their children, by conviction choose to send them to schools which teach biblically-based moral values and a Christian world view. This choice is essential if 'the free exercise of religion' with respect to education is not to be an empty constitutional right.

"Parental choice of public or private education should be available to all. To help alleviate the double financial burden placed upon parents who send their children to religious schools, we appeal for the enactment of tuition tax credits or similar tax relief as a matter of economic justice. The legislation we advocate would enhance values important to our society -- educational pluralism, academic freedom, and excellence in all education through freedom of access. Any such legislation should contain an unequivocal prohibition of racial discrimination. NAE urges Congress to enact such remedial legislation."

TO PROTECT
RELIGIOUS
SPEECH

Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-OR) has taken steps to correct an absurd situation. For years, federal courts have prohibited public schools from accommodating students' rights to free speech and to the free exercise of religion. Hatfield's "Religious Speech Protection Act of 1983," S 815, would statutorily overrule the Lubbock case, making it unlawful for public high schools "to discriminate against any meeting of students on the basis of the religious content of the speech at such meeting." As a precaution, at NAE's suggestion, the bill would prohibit any attempt by the state to "influence the form or content of any prayer or other religious activity." Considering the difficult process involved in getting a constitutional amendment passed and ratified, we think that Sen. Hatfield's approach to the voluntary school prayer issue has a great deal of practical merit. We know that many Members of Congress will support this bill, while rejecting others re: prayer.

Leave it to exiled Soviet novelist Alexander Solzhenitsyn to put prayer into perspective. Failing to show up in Washington to receive the \$170,000 Templeton Foundation Prize for progress in religion, he sent a fiery verbal message instead. Attacking the Supreme Court ban on prayer in the public schools, Solzhenitsyn said: "When prayers in school are forbidden even in a free country, it is not much more tolerable than in communist countries, only in that it lacks the hammering-in of atheism."

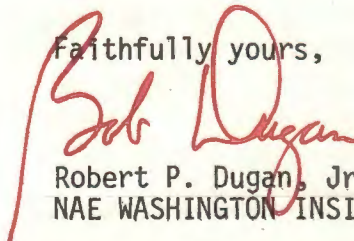
SPECIAL
TREATMENT?

The issue of civil rights for homosexuals has recently taken a new twist. On February 4, the Democratic National Committee voted to accept homosexuals as an official Party caucus. Under Party rules, a group must develop bylaws and collect the signatures of at least 10% of DNC members in order to form a caucus. In granting recognition to the Lesbian and Gay Caucus, along with legitimate others such as the Black, Hispanic and Women's Caucuses, the Democratic Party enhances homosexuals' efforts to have their lifestyles considered acceptable. The issue of Gay Rights must not be confused with race or gender discrimination. Obviously people are born black or white, male or female, but it is a biblical conviction of evangelicals that people are not born homosexual.

CRUCIAL
CONSTITUTIONAL
QUESTION

In devising the Social Security rescue bill passed March 24, Congress sought additional funding from all possible sources. In its haste, Congress may have overlooked a significant constitutional question, for the legislation brings all employees of non-profit organizations under Social Security next January 1. Until now, coverage for employees of religious organizations was optional. Our concern? For the first time churches will be taxed with respect to their religious activity, as distinguished from current taxation of unrelated business income and social security taxes on churches electing to cover their employees. NAE alerted committee staff to the constitutional implications, to no avail. Supreme Court pronouncements cautioning against excessive entanglement between church and state will undoubtedly serve as the basis for a judicial challenge to this legislation, as applied to churches. Although such issues were discussed by the Court in Walz v. Tax Commission, the Supreme Court has never decided whether the First Amendment bars such taxation of churches.

Faithfully yours,



Robert P. Dugan, Jr., Editor
NAE WASHINGTON INSIGHT

April, 1983

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REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge ,
Appointments Center
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on MARCH 31, 19 83

for MORTON C. BLACKWELL of OPL
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

- GALLAGHER, Thomas
- DEFIORE, Leonard
- BALDWIN, Robert
- MEYERS, John
- SPIRES, Edward
- ANTHONY, Edward
- OLIVER, Renee
- BILLINGS, Robert Jr.
- DINGMAN, Richard
- BUTLER, Gregory
- JARMIN, Gary
- SMITH, Robert
- MONAHAN, Frank
- MONTGOMERY, Forrest
- DUGAN, Robert
- MARSHNER, Connaught

MEETING LOCATION

Building OEOB

Requested by SHORTLEY

Room No. 194

Room No. 191 Telephone 2657

Time of Meeting 4 PM

Date of request MAR. 31, 1983

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6046 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
March 21, 1983

Room 194
Jonathan Vipond
3 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL *MB*

SUBJECT: Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus leaders will be in town on Friday. They are an important element of the tuition tax credits coalition.

Attached is a list of members of the coalition who would be available for a meeting Friday afternoon. Bob Baldwin, who has been working with the coalition for the past couple of years, has organized this group and requested, through me, an appointment with you at 4:00 p.m. on Friday.

These are constructive, action-oriented people. I recommend you see them if possible. Their time is somewhat flexible on Friday afternoon in case you are already scheduled at 4:00 p.m.

*Cancel per Sister Renee
3/24 1:35*



NATIONAL COALITION FOR TUITION TAX CREDITS

1435 G Street, N.W., Suite 854, Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 638-6469

March 21, 1983

To: Mr. Morton Blackwell
From: Robert Baldwin
Re: Meeting with Faith Whittlesey on Tuition Tax Credits

Enclosed is a list of people who would like a meeting with Faith Whittlesey on Friday, March 25, about 4:00 p.m. if at all possible. If that time is not convenient we could rearrange our other meeting in order to meet with her any time after 2:00 p.m.

All the people on this list represent organizations that are deeply involved with and concerned about non-public education and would, therefore, like to discuss the future of tuition tax credit legislation.

Mr. Virgil Dechant NO
The Reverend Thomas Gallagher
Dr. Leonard DeFiore

Mr. Robert Baldwin

Mrs. Marilyn Lundy NO
Mr. Elmer Von Feldt NO
Msgr. John Meyers
Msgr. Edward Spires
Dr. Edward Anthony
Sister Renee Oliver
Mr. Robert Billings Jr.
Mr. Richard Dingman
Mr. Paul Weyrich NO

Mr. Ed McAteer no
Mr. Greg Butler

Gary Jarmin
Robert Smith
Frank Monahan
Forrest Montgomery
Bob Dugan
Connie Marchener

Knights of Columbus
U.S. Catholic Conference
Superintendent of Schools
Archdiocese of Washington
National Coalition for Tuition Tax Credits
Citizens for Educational Freedom
Knights of Columbus
Nat. Catholic Education Assn.
Knights of Columbus
U.S. Catholic Conference
Citizens for Educational Freedom
Nat. Christian Action Coalition
Moral Majority
Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress
Religious Roundtable
Coalitions for America

Christian Voice
Council on Amer Private Ed.
U.S. Catholic Conf.
NAE
NAE
Coalitions for America

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 31, 1983

ATTENDEES -- Tuition Tax Credit Coalition

The Reverend Thomas Gallagher	U.S. Catholic Conference
Dr. Leonard DeFiore	Superintendent of Schools, Archdiocese of Washington
Mr. Robert Baldwin	National Coalition for Tuition Tax Credits
Msgr. John Meyers	National Catholic Education Assn.
Msgr. Edward Spires	Knights of Columbus
Dr. Edward Anthony	U.S. Catholic Conference
Sister Renee Oliver	Citizens for Educational Freedom
Mr. Robert Billings Jr.	National Christian Action Coalition
Mr. Richard Dingman	The Moral Majority
Mr. Greg Butler	Coalitions for America
Mr. Gary Jarmin	Christian Voice
Mr. Robert Smith	Council on American Private Education
Frank Monahan	U.S. Catholic Conference
Mr. Forrest Montgomery	National Association of Evangelicals
Mr. Robert Dugan	National Association of Evangelicals
Mrs. Connie Marshner	Coalitions for America



NATIONAL COALITION FOR TUITION TAX CREDITS

1435 G Street, N.W., Suite 854, Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 638-6469

November 23, 1982

The Honorable Robert Dole
Dirksen Senate Office Building #2213
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

The Coalition for Tuition Tax Credits met on Tuesday, November 16, to discuss the future of legislation supportive of this issue. At a previous meeting it had been decided that it was not feasible to seek action in the "lame-duck" session. At the 11/16 meeting it was therefore decided that there are some options open to us which we would like to discuss with you at the earliest possible date. These options center around two basic areas: which BILL to support, and what STRATEGY to follow to enact this legislation.

The following is a brief outline of the options as we see them at this time. We ask you to give them your thoughtful attention prior to our meeting with you.

BILL OPTIONS

1. Original bill as presented by the White House.

(Pro- Leaves room for negotiations.)

(Con- Leaves open possibility of more dangerous amendments being added.)

2. White House compromise to the Bradley amendments.

(Pro- Less possibility of dangerous amendments being added because compromises have already been made.)

(Pro- Christian School Community will still accept this bill.)

(Con- No room for further negotiations.)

3. S 2673 as amended and reported out of the Senate Finance Committee.

(Pro- Already passed by the Finance Committee.)

(Con- Unacceptable to conservative elements in the coalition because of extensive government involvement, i.e. compulsory attendance laws and holding the issue hostage to the Bob Jones University case.)

STRATEGY OPTIONS:

1. Aggressively pursue enactment of legislation through normal channels: Committee hearings in Senate and House, floor action, conference committee, etc.

(Pro- Straight up/down vote on the issue itself.)
(Con- Speaker of the House could stall further action.)
(Con- A filibuster could kill the bill.)

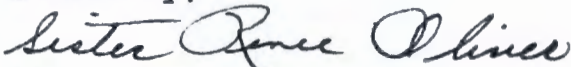
2. Attach tuition tax credit legislation to a "must pass" bill on the floor of the Senate.

(Pro- In 1981, President Reagan pledged to include TTC in the second Administration tax bill.)
(Pro- Less possibility of a successful filibuster.)
(Pro- House Speaker cannot prevent floor action.)
(Pro- Bill's integrity can be assured in the Senate through first and second degree amendments.)
(Con- May get bogged down with original bill.)

Thank you, Senator, for giving this matter your time and consideration. We appreciate all that you have already done for the cause of parents' rights in education.

Again, we think that it is important that we meet with you in the very near future, prior to our meeting with the Administration in mid December. Please contact us through the Coalition number given above.

Sincerely,



Sister Renee Oliver

on behalf of Members of the Coalition:

Coalitions for America	Citizens for Ed. Freedom
Pro-Family Coalition	Moral Majority
National Pro-Life PAC	Catholic League
Accelerated Christian Education	Knights of Columbus
United States Catholic Conference	National Catholic Education Association
Council on American Private Education	Assn. of Christian Schools International
cc: Edwin Meese Donald Regan Terrel Bell Charles O'Malley Jack Burgess	Nat. Christian Action Coalition



CITIZENS FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM
SUITE 854 WASHINGTON BUILDING
15TH STREET & NEW YORK AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

← fiv

Tuition
Tax
Credits

September 20, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:

We in Citizens for Educational Freedom
wish to thank you for the untiring
efforts you have devoted to the cause
of parents' rights in education through
tuition tax credits.

Regardless of the outcome, we want
you to know of our gratitude for what
you have accomplished thus far.

Sincerely,
Sister Gene Oliver

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



From the desk of.....

RABBI MENACHEM LUBINSKY

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Regards!
ML

AGUDATH ISRAEL OF AMERICA

*Tuition
Tax
Credits*



file

Orthodox Jewish Organizations Unite Behind President's Tuition Tax Proposal

The nation's leading Orthodox Jewish rabbinic and lay organizations representing all segments of the community issued a joint statement in support of President Reagan's tuition tax credit proposal for children of private schools. The bill, the Educational Opportunity and Equity Act of 1982, S. 2673, currently pending in the Senate Finance Committee, would provide for a tax credit to parents of children in private elementary and secondary schools of up to \$500 when the bill becomes fully effective in 1985. In its initial phase in 1983, parents would receive a \$100 credit, \$300 in 1984 and \$500 in 1985.

In their statement, the Orthodox Jewish groups note: "we, the representatives of national Orthodox Jewish organizations, strongly support the efforts of President Ronald Reagan and his Administration to provide tuition tax credits for parents of children in nonpublic schools. The proposal submitted to Congress by the President is consistent with our belief that Americans have an inherent right to educate their children in the school of their choice. Because education is one of the highest priorities of our community, we urge the Congress to expedite the passage of a tuition tax credit measure, thus bringing justice to parents of all

children in the best tradition of our democratic principles."

The Orthodox organizations that signed the joined statement are (in alphabetical order) Agudath Israel of America; Agudah Women of America; American Mizrahi Women; National Council of Young Israel, Women's League of the National Council of Young Israel, Intercollegiate Council of the Young Israel, Young Adults Council of the Young Israel; National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs; National Society of Hebrew Day Schools, National Conference of Yeshiva Principals, Association of Hebrew Day School Parents and Teachers Association; Rabbinical Alliance of America; Rabbinical Council of America; Religious Zionists of America; Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; and the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to mark up a tuition tax credit bill after the Labor Day recess. President Reagan has vowed to push Congress for a tax credit proposal in this session of Congress. The Senate Finance Committee chaired by Senator Robert Dole (R-Kansas) held hearings on the bill on July 16th.

MISSOURI STATE FEDERATION

Tuition Tax Credits



CITIZENS FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM

PARENTS
RIGHTS
IN
EDUCATION

2208 NORTH WARSON ROAD
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63114

↑
file

"A Fair Share For Every Child"

(314) 423-0831 or (314) 434-4171

September 17, 1982

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- Thomas J. White, K.H.S.*

Mr. Morton Blackwell
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Great work! We want to thank you and congratulate you on the fine job you did in guiding the Tuition Tax Credit bill through the White House and the Senate Finance Committee.

President Reagan deserves lots of credit for his dedication to justice in education.

Hope to see you in St. Louis when you get into town.

Gratefully,

Mae Duggan

NATIONAL OFFICE

- Robert Baldwin, Director*
- Dr. Eugene Linse, Chairman*
- Mrs. Brad Lundy, President*
- Jim Condit - Ohio*
- Victor Solomon - New York*
- Bob Hoffman - Kentucky*
- Emile Comar - Louisiana*

MD/pm

Suite 854, Washington Bldg.
15th St. & New York Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
Phone: 202-638-6423

+ Archdiocese of Washington

Archdiocesan Pastoral Center: 5001 Eastern Avenue
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 29260, Washington, D.C. 20017

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EHD
Tuition
Tax
credits

Catholic Schools Office
(301) 853-4587

August 4, 1982

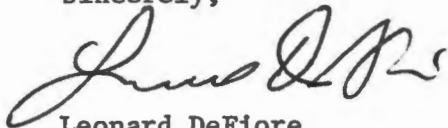
The Honorable Robert Dole
2213 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

I want to thank you for the meeting on August 2. I felt it was a most productive session.

When we are successful in passing the President's tuition tax credit bill, I am sure we will look back to that meeting as one of the key turning points in our efforts.

Sincerely,



Leonard DeFiore
Superintendent of Schools

LDF/tb

cc: Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole
Mr. Jack Burgess

+ Archdiocese of Washington

Archdiocesan Pastoral Center: 5001 Eastern Avenue
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 29260, Washington, D.C. 20017

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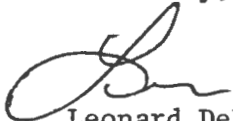
Mr. James A. Baker III
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Jim,

I want to thank you for the meeting on July 30. I felt it was a most productive session.

When we are successful in passing the President's tuition tax credit bill, I am sure we will look back to that meeting as one of the key turning points in our efforts.

Sincerely,



Leonard DeFiore
Superintendent of Schools

LDF/tb

cc: Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole
Mr. Jack Burgess



NATIONAL COALITION FOR TUITION TAX CREDITS

1435 G Street, N.W., Suite 854, Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 638-6469

November 23, 1982

The Honorable Robert Dole
Dirksen Senate Office Building #2213
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

The Coalition for Tuition Tax Credits met on Tuesday, November 16, to discuss the future of legislation supportive of this issue. At a previous meeting it had been decided that it was not feasible to seek action in the "lame-duck" session. At the 11/16 meeting it was therefore decided that there are some options open to us which we would like to discuss with you at the earliest possible date. These options center around two basic areas: which BILL to support, and what STRATEGY to follow to enact this legislation.

The following is a brief outline of the options as we see them at this time. We ask you to give them your thoughtful attention prior to our meeting with you.

BILL OPTIONS

1. Original bill as presented by the White House.

(Pro- Leaves room for negotiations.)

(Con- Leaves open possibility of more dangerous amendments being added.)

2. White House compromise to the Bradley amendments.

(Pro- Less possibility of dangerous amendments being added because compromises have already been made.)

(Pro- Christian School Community will still accept this bill.)

(Con- No room for further negotiations.)

3. S 2673 as amended and reported out of the Senate Finance Committee.

(Pro- Already passed by the Finance Committee.)

(Con- Unacceptable to conservative elements in the coalition because of extensive government involvement, i.e. compulsory attendance laws and holding the issue hostage to the Bob Jones University case.)

STRATEGY OPTIONS:

1. Aggressively pursue enactment of legislation through normal channels: Committee hearings in Senate and House, floor action, conference committee, etc.

(Pro- Straight up/down vote on the issue itself.)
(Con- Speaker of the House could stall further action.)
(Con- A filibuster could kill the bill.)

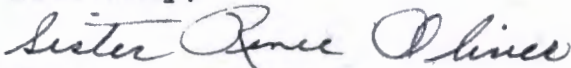
2. Attach tuition tax credit legislation to a "must pass" bill on the floor of the Senate.

(Pro- In 1981, President Reagan pledged to include TTC in the second Administration tax bill.)
(Pro- Less possibility of a successful filibuster.)
(Pro- House Speaker cannot prevent floor action.)
(Pro- Bill's integrity can be assured in the Senate through first and second degree amendments.)
(Con- May get bogged down with original bill.)

Thank you, Senator, for giving this matter your time and consideration. We appreciate all that you have already done for the cause of parents' rights in education.

Again, we think that it is important that we meet with you in the very near future, prior to our meeting with the Administration in mid December. Please contact us through the Coalition number given above.

Sincerely,



Sister Renee Oliver

on behalf of Members of the Coalition:

Coalitions for America	Citizens for Ed. Freedom
Pro-Family Coalition	Moral Majority
National Pro-Life PAC	Catholic League
Accelerated Christian Education	Knights of Columbus
United States Catholic Conference	National Catholic Education Association
Council on American Private Education	Assn. of Christian Schools International
cc: Edwin Meese Donald Regan Terrel Bell Charles O'Malley Jack Burgess	Nat. Christian Action Coalition