



SAVE OUR  
SCHOLARSHIPS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Statement from Rev. H.K. Matthews Regarding  
FASA's Withdrawal From the Tax Credit Scholarship Lawsuit**

*School Administrators Announce Plan To Focus on Core Issues of 5,000 Member Group  
and Leave the Lawsuit Challenge to Remaining Groups*

**Pensacola, FL** – In response to the announcement, Rev. H.K. Matthews, a civil rights activist who marched in Selma with Dr. Martin Luther King and a long supporter of the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program for low-income students, released this statement:

“Hallelujah. I tip my hat to Mr. Mixon and the board of the Florida Association of School Administrators. This scholarship helps 70,000 of the state’s most underprivileged children, and there is no reason that school principals should be working against their interests. This kind of program strengthens public education, which is why this lawsuit is such a mistake. Maybe FASA now gets that.”

**About Save Our Scholarships**

The **Save Our Scholarships** Coalition was formed to protect the futures of Florida’s poorest students and the rights of parents to choose the best school for their child. The statewide coalition is calling on Florida’s teachers union, the Florida School Board Association and others to #DropTheSuit attacking the state’s Tax Credit Scholarship Program. The Save Our Scholarship Coalition includes representation from the following organizations:

- The Black Alliance For Educational Options (BAEO)
- The Hispanic Council For Reform and Educational Options (HCREO)
- The Alliance For School Choice
- Agudath Israel of Florida
- The Florida Black Ministers Parental Choice Alliance
- The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America

For more information, please visit [www.saveourscholarships.com](http://www.saveourscholarships.com).

**About the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program**

The Florida Legislature founded the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program in 2001, and gave hope to low-income Florida families by giving them a voice in their children’s education, and an opportunity for a better future. This innovative program allows corporations with certain Florida tax liabilities to redirect a portion of those funds to a scholarship program approved by the Florida Department of Education (DOE) in exchange for a dollar-for-dollar tax credit.

For the 2014-2015 school year, nearly 70,000 students across Florida are attending a school chosen by their parents. More than 70 percent are minorities, and their average family income is just 5 percent above the poverty level. Data shows scholarship students were typically the ones who struggled the most in public schools, but are now making solid progress in their new schools. Studies also show that the program saves taxpayer money, in large part because the value of the scholarship (\$5,272 this year) is roughly half what taxpayers spend per-pupil in public schools.

For more information, please visit [www.floridaschoolchoice.org](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org)