

Dear Members of the Georgia Legislature:

We are writing to encourage your support for HB 60, the Georgia Educational Scholarship Act. This bill would create more educational options for students and families, a key concern for Hispanics in our state.

Polls have consistently shown that education is a top priority for Hispanic families, and it has clearly been a particular concern since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic. As the staff and volunteers of The LIBRE Initiative engage with the Latino community in our state, we see a strong desire to make sure students have access to the educational options that fit their needs. That's the best way to help them discover, develop, and apply their talents and abilities, and to encourage the habits of lifelong learning.

Students have a range of learning styles and challenges. Not everyone learns in the same way or succeeds in the same setting. But everyone has talents and gifts that can be unlocked and developed. Forcing kids to adapt to the status quo educational system is the wrong approach, especially without clarity about when the pandemic will be behind us. Instead, students and families would benefit from flexibility and access to a variety of educational options and tools.

HB 60 is a step in the right direction to ensure every student is guaranteed a individualized education they deserve. We encourage all members of the legislature to support this approach, which focuses on putting the needs of students first.

Sincerely,

Community Engagement Director for The LIBRE Initiative-Georgia