



On November 8, 2016, voters in Georgia will be asked to approve an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Georgia that will create a new statewide school district headed by a political appointee who will have sole discretion to take over local schools that the Governor deems “failing” and turn them over to out-of-state, for-profit charter management organizations. This constitutional amendment silences parents and communities on important decisions regarding their children’s education and health. **Public Education Matters Georgia** strongly opposes this constitutional amendment, which will appear on the ballot as Amendment #1.

We all want thriving public schools and quality education for our children, but lurking in the fine print of this constitutional amendment are hidden negative consequences that will have huge impacts on public education in Georgia. It is a power grab by the Governor and out-of-state private interests. This is not what we need for our public schools. This is a sell-off of our children’s education.

A coalition of organizations has formed a campaign committee called [Keep Georgia Schools Local](#) to oppose Amendment #1, and an even larger number of organizations across the state have passed resolutions opposing the passage of Amendment #1. The organizations opposing Amendment #1 include:

- [Georgia NAACP](#)
- [Public Education Matters Georgia](#)
- Georgia AFL-CIO
- [Concerned Black Clergy](#)
- Communication Workers of America
- Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
- [League of Women Voters of Georgia](#)
- Georgia Coalition for the People’s Agenda
- Georgia Stand UP
- Georgia Federation of Democratic Women
- [Southern Education Foundation](#)
- ProGeorgia
- A.Philip Randolph Institute
- [Georgia School Board Association](#)
- [Georgia Association of Educators](#)
- [Georgia Federation of Teachers](#)
- [Georgia Parent-Teacher Association](#)
- [Professional Association of Georgia Educators](#)
- [Savannah-Chatham County Schools](#)
- Valdosta City Schools
- [Newton County Schools](#)
- [Fayette County Schools](#)
- [Henry County Schools](#)
- [Bibb County Schools](#)
- [Richmond County Schools](#)
- [Cherokee County Schools](#)
- [Troup County Schools](#)
- Clarke County Schools
- Oconee County Schools
- Clayton County Schools
- Douglas County Schools