

Dear Representative _____,

I am writing you to encourage you to vote against the J bill 1 on November 1, 2019, at the Duval delegation meeting, that would change our appointed superintendent to an elected office.

PLEASE SELECT SEVERAL OF THE BULLETS ON THE ADJOINING PAGE FOR THE REMAINING BODY OF THE LETTER.

(The correspondence should not be long, but short, concise and factual.)

Sincerely yours,

Name

Address

Phone number

BULLETS FOR THE BODY OF THE LETTER

- The last time we had an elected superintendent was in 1965, and that elected Superintendent led Duval County down a path that resulted in a loss of accreditation.
- In response to the loss of accreditation, the George Peabody College for Teachers did a report on elected versus appointed superintendents in 1965. This report resulted in a finding that Duval County was the only large school system in the country with an elected superintendent.
- The Peabody Report that was conducted in 1965 concluded that having an elected school board and superintendent would create frequent conflicts and make it difficult for a superintendent to have creative leadership to reach educational goals.
- The Peabody Report that was conducted in 1965 stated, "good school administration is not the same as good politics". The Peabody Report recommended that the Duval County School Board "have the complete freedom to select the best qualified person available for the position."
- With an appointed superintendent the elected school board member who represent their districts can conduct a nationwide search to select the best qualified candidate. This nationwide search is an open process that includes community stakeholder input and allows for the School Board's careful analysis of each applicant's qualifications.
- An elected superintendent would have no minimum qualification other than an address in the county and a minimum age requirement. Superintendents must have knowledge and skills to be an academic leader, organizational manager for the second largest employer in the county, and to make sure students receive a high-quality public education.
- Duval County has had an appointed Superintendent since 1969 and currently the seven largest school districts in Florida have appointed superintendents as well and the remaining school districts who currently have elected superintendents are moving towards appointed superintendent positions. Most recently in Hernando County, Florida.
- A non-partisan process ensures all constituents are represented.
- There is accountability to the elected school board for results.
- There is continuity in the development of initiatives.
- Duval School staff is hired based on performance not political patronage.
- Lack of funding for a campaign may discourage qualified candidates.
- The people have a voice in the selection of the superintendent through their elected

school board members and the community outreach done during the selection process.

- An elected Superintendent would not have continuity for initiatives and staffing after each election.
- An elected superintendent would not be required to have an education background.
- An elected superintendent would be beholden to campaign donors rather than student best interests.

TWITTER/FACEBOOK

If you have Twitter or Facebook, please contact the representatives listed on page 3 through social media as well. Twitter has word limits, so you can select your top bullets to tweet or direct message them. Facebook does not have such a word limit, but please remember short and concise gets your point across. **Remember the message is PLEASE VOTE NO on J bill-1 keeping the superintendent of Duval County schools appointed not elected.**

When communicating with elected official or members of the community, please remember you are a professional and to conduct yourself in a professional non-combative manner.

Representative Contact information

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