

# INVEST IN KIDS WITH LB670

## JACOB'S STORY



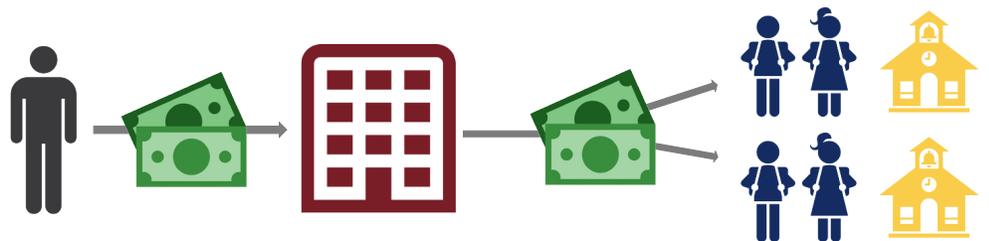
*“At a very early age, my father ingrained the importance of education in our identity.... My parents worked countless hours to make sure we had a private education. Their hard work, along with All Saint’s [scholarship opportunities], allowed us the privilege of receiving a private education which has been a blessing from God. From All Saints, I attended Mount Michael Benedictine [with the assistance of a scholarship], which altered my life in so many positive ways. One of those being continuing my private education at Creighton University where I received a full ride academic scholarship.*

*I support school choice because expanding such policies will allow for more students with similar stories as mine to have a choice in their education, **a choice that could change their lives.**”*

Jacob’s family immigrated to the United States from Egypt in 2003.

*LB670, the Opportunity Scholarships Act, provides more scholarship opportunities for low-income and working-class children to attend a private school of their choice.*

## TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS: HOW DO THEY WORK?



When an individual or business donates to a scholarship granting organization (SGO), they are eligible to receive a partial or full tax credit on their state income tax liability.

Low-income and working-class parents then work with the SGO to find the best educational fit for their child. The child receives a scholarship to attend a private school of his or her choice.

## More info about tax credit scholarships at [INVESTINKIDSNEBRASKA.ORG](http://INVESTINKIDSNEBRASKA.ORG)



## HOW WILL LB670 WORK IN NEBRASKA?

- The proposed program provides a 100% state income tax credit for donations to scholarship granting organizations and is capped at 50% of an individual or business’s state tax liability.
- The state will provide \$10 million in total income tax credits, with the amount of tax credits available increasing every year if 95% of the income tax credit cap is reached.
- This program will change the lives of thousands of Nebraska’s kids every year! In 2016 alone, Children’s Scholarship Fund of Omaha turned away 600+ applicants due to lack of funds.



**NEXT PAGE: HOW YOU CAN  
HELP KIDS LIKE JACOB!**

# HOW YOU CAN HELP US INVEST IN KIDS WITH LB670



## SHARE YOUR STORY

If you have a personal story about a positive experience with private or parochial education, you can have a powerful impact by sharing it with others. Maybe you wanted a faith-based environment for your child. Maybe private or parochial school better met your child's needs. Maybe you or your child have benefited from a privately-funded scholarship and you want others to have the same opportunity.



## CALL, EMAIL, OR WRITE YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Contact your senator and Governor Ricketts to personally convey why private or parochial education was best fit for your child, or to simply encourage them to support Opportunity Scholarships (LB670). You can contact your senator by visiting [investinkidsnebraska.org/be-an-advocate](https://investinkidsnebraska.org/be-an-advocate).



## MEET WITH YOUR SENATOR

Senators appreciate hearing directly from constituents, especially about how public policy can personally change lives. Call your senator's office and set up a meeting, or talk to them in the Capitol Rotunda during floor debates.

## “BUT WHAT SHOULD I SAY?” GOOD QUESTION!

*When communicating with your elected officials, it's best to share your personal beliefs and experiences in your own words. But if you need a little help, here are some reasons why we think LB670 will benefit students, parents, and our state.*

- Different children have educational different needs.
- Every child has the right to an education that best meets their unique needs.
- LB670 simply helps incentivize more private donations to help fund scholarships for low-income and middle-class families.
- Tax-credit scholarships are funded purely by private donations, not public school funds.
- Tax-credit scholarships exist in 18 states, including Iowa, South Dakota and Kansas. Nebraska should be next!
- LB670 saves taxpayer dollars. Iowa's scholarship tax credit program saves their state over \$12 million annually.
- Nebraska's private schools already save \$450 million in public funds every year.
- Successful private schools promote successful public schools, and vice versa.
- Studies consistently demonstrate that public schools benefit from the existence of scholarship tax credit programs. Twenty of 21 studies showed these programs improve the performance of nearby public schools.
- A 2017 study on the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program shows participating students 43% more likely to enroll in college than their peers.

*Find more information about LB670 at*

**INVESTINKIDS**NEBRASKA.ORG

