



EDUCATION FOR ALL
TENNESSEE

**EVERY KID DESERVES
A QUALITY EDUCATION**


WHAT'S HAPPENING: In April 2025, the TN Senate passed Senate Bill 836, which allows public schools to profile our children and deny them entry based on their documentation status. The House version (HB793) will likely be voted on in 2026. If it passes the House, it becomes law.

WHY THIS MATTERS: Thanks to U.S. Supreme Court decisions like *Plyler v. Doe*, as a country, we have already decided that education is a right, not a privilege—no matter what you look like or how you got here. If HB793 passes, it can prompt a legal battle that could open the door to denying children the right to learn across the country.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: We were able to pause this bill last year thanks to actions of people like you across the state, but the fight isn't over. Here's what you can do to defend the right to learn:



**ASK YOUR SCHOOL BOARD
TO PASS A RESOLUTION
OPPOSING HB793 AND LAWS
LIKE THIS**



**CALL AND EMAIL
YOUR REPRESENTATIVE
TO TELL THEM TO VOTE "NO"
ON HB793 AND LAWS LIKE THIS**



**TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS
ABOUT WHY IT MATTERS THAT
EVERY CHILD HAS A STRONG
EDUCATION AND INVITE THEM
TO ACT,**



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT BURDEN WILL HB793 CAUSE IF PASSED?

While this bill targets undocumented students, its impact could be felt widely. Requiring extra paperwork burdens schools and families—slowing enrollment, raising costs for districts, and especially harming foster youth, low-income students, students with disabilities, Black and brown students, and families with limited English proficiency.

HOW WILL STUDENTS BE HARMED IF PASSED?

Well-educated communities are stronger communities. Increased levels of education are associated with stronger civic engagement, increased earnings and tax revenue, and better health outcomes. This bill creates fear, stress, and trauma that hurt learning for *all* students. If passed, schools could see more absences, dropouts, lower achievement, and disrupted classrooms that harm our whole communities.

WHY TALK TO MY SCHOOL BOARD? ISN'T THIS A STATE ISSUE?

School boards represent community values, and elected members are expected to be responsive to state legislation impacting public education. Resolutions, while they're not policies, show support for educating every child and push back against harmful laws.

OKAY, BUT I THOUGHT THIS BILL DIED LAST SESSION?

Not exactly. It was *delayed* thanks to public pressure and differences between the House and Senate versions. The Senate passed it, but the House version stalled "behind the budget" in committee. It can still move forward. This time, it could move quickly once the legislature reconvenes—making early action critical.

TAKE ACTION & LEARN MORE:

[https:// www.socm.org/educationforall](https://www.socm.org/educationforall)