

# COMPARING BOTH EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS PROPOSALS



| TITLE                   | Education Savings Account Act  | Educational Freedom Act  |
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| <b>PROPOSERS</b>        | Ric Grenell joined with 3 moms with diverse backgrounds, Cecilia Iglesias, Saga Conroy, Maryam Qudrat, who have been at the forefront of education reform for years  | Michael Alexander, Dale Broome, Marc Ang, Brian Hawkins, Stephen Smith   |
| <b>ESA AMOUNT</b>       | Provides K-12 students who opt into an Education Savings Account (ESA) a prudent initial \$13,000 in state education funds per year for though it will grow with the state budget and inflation  | Their initial \$14,000 in funding is more than state education funds currently cover exposing their program to unknown economic shifts   |
| <b>USE OF ESA FUNDS</b> | Covers tuition at a participating K-12 accredited school as well as eligible education expenses, including books, school supplies, tutoring, fees, special needs services, transportation to & from school functions with a balanced audit function to avoid fraud   | Provides similar funds for tuition and other eligible education expenses at participating schools, but an unclear reimbursement process may expose families to extra state scrutiny                              |
| <b>PHASE-IN</b>         | Program phases-in by income level allowing for low and moderate-income students initial access to the funds & for the system of schools to grow; Year 1-2: families making less than \$100k/year (60% of CA families qualify); Year 3-4: families making less than \$200k (86% of CA families qualify); after Year 4, everyone is eligible | Has no plan to accommodate an influx of students & classroom space may not be available if there is a rush to get into the program without a phase-in approach   |
| <b>ELIGIBLE SCHOOLS</b> | Can be used at any accredited private school that has agreed to participate  | While it can be used at any accredited school that has agreed to participate, proponents are confusing parents by suggesting these funds can be used for charter schools which is not a part of their proposal   |
| <b>HOMESCHOOL</b>       | Allows homeschoolers to be enrolled in the program through an accredited program, though at the request of prominent homeschool organizations, it excludes & protects private homeschools operating under private school affidavits who currently receive no government funds  | Allows homeschoolers to be enrolled in the program without going through an accredited program likely exposing them to intrusive government oversight  |
| <b>COLLEGE SAVINGS</b>  | As a bonus, allows up to \$60,000 to be saved for college or vocational school since program is primarily funded with K-12 money & there are already robust scholarship & grant opportunities for higher education   | Has no cap on what can be saved for college; it may be in the range of an exorbitant quarter million dollars per student after graduation if little to no money is used for K-12 tuition or educational expenses |

