



# LEGISLATIVE POSITION MEMO

Philadelphia Federation of Teachers  
Jerry T. Jordan, President

**JUNE 26, 2023**

**TO: Members of the General Assembly**

**CC: Hon. Governor Josh Shapiro, Hon. Secretary of Education Dr. Khalid Mumin**

**FROM: Jerry T. Jordan, President**

**RE: Legislative Priorities**

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With the fast pace of legislative action in the final week of the legislative session, I want to reiterate PFT's legislative priorities, some of which are listed below, and further elaborated on in our legislative platform: [pft.org/platform2023](https://pft.org/platform2023).

- **Support:** Major increases across the board to public education funding, including by restoring the charter school line item
- **Support:** HB1408 (\$250 million in dedicated facilities funding)
- **Oppose:** SB795 & HB1432 ('Lifeline Scholarships' vouchers)
- **Oppose:** HB1513 ([EITC](#) voucher expansion)
- **Oppose: Any voucher efforts**

There are a number of other important bills that should be prioritized that support students and staff:

- **Support:** Cyber charter reform (HB1422)--up for a vote in committee on Tuesday
- **Support:** Gun violence prevention bills (without harmful amendments)
- **Support:** Teacher certification for DACA recipients (HB1067 & SB393)
- **Support:** 'Grow Your Own' programs similar to the PFT's Para Pathways program (with support for existing programs)
- **Support:** Stipends for student teachers (HB1331 & SB300)

This is not an exhaustive list, and I am happy to provide further information on any of the listed items, including extensive research on voucher programs.