

THE Center for Education Reform



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NEWS ALERT

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STATEMENT FROM THE CENTER FOR EDUCATION REFORM ON U.S. SUPREME COURT'S DECISION ON CLEVELAND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

(November 5, 1999) More than 700 Cleveland families have been given a new opportunity to participate in the Cleveland Scholarship program. The ruling by the full U.S. Supreme Court stayed an earlier decision by Ohio District Judge Solomon Oliver that prevented these families from participating in the 3-year old program.

The initial ruling came hours before the start of the new school year and granted a full injunction of the program, preventing more than 3,000 Cleveland children from attending the school of their choice. He then reversed the decision and barred only the new entrants. The Supreme Court lifted that bar. "This was a child friendly decision," said CER president Jeanne Allen. "Too many children have for too long been stuck in just plain bad schools. This is a huge step towards improving the city's system of schools. With this ruling the Supreme Court has clearly shown their willingness to consider educational choice cases. Today's decision provides the Sixth Circuit Court the opportunity to do the right thing for Cleveland and decide for the children's future."

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