

## Understanding the Cost of Expanding School Vouchers

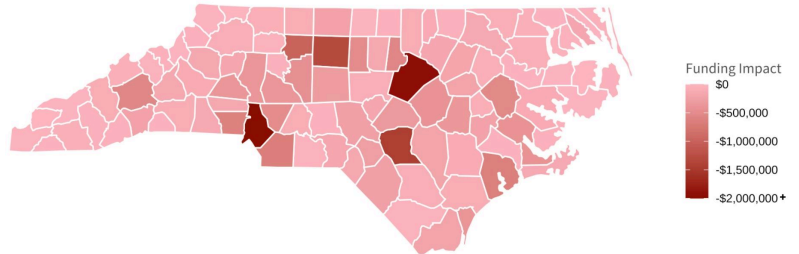
### Highlights

- Allots an **additional \$248M** to be used on taxpayer-funded school vouchers for the 24-25 school year
- **Total funding of \$7B to Opportunity Scholarships through 2032-33 years**, an increase of \$2.6B from the original 23-25 budget
- Under current law, state funding for public schools would [decrease by \\$22.4M](#) in FY25-26
- Under proposed funding, state funding for public schools would **decrease by \$76M** in FY25-26

### OSBM Impact Analysis

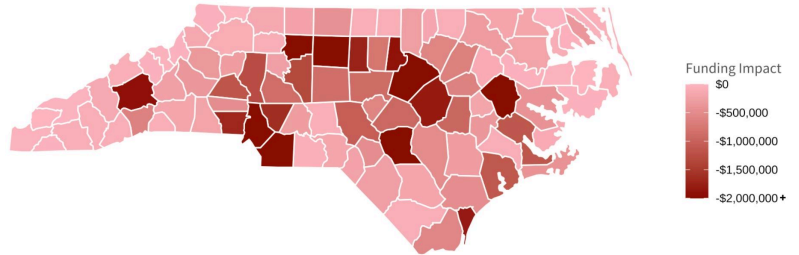
- **23% of the families on the waitlist make over \$259,740** annually, and 72% make over \$115,440

Impact of Current Voucher Funding on NC's Public Schools



Source: OSBM

Impact of Proposed Voucher Funding on NC's Public Schools



Source: OSBM

### Education investments we could make with 248M

- Increase teacher pay by more than 3.5% across the board
- Add more than 575 positions for school counselors, nurses, social workers, and psychologists; 700 additional teacher assistant positions for K-3 classrooms; fund the cost of National Board certification fees for 470 additional teachers; remove the funding caps for Children with Disabilities and Limited English Proficiency allotment; AND reinstate masters pay
- Help early child care programs survive the ESSER fiscal cliff (30% of current programs are estimated to be at risk of closing)
- Provide more than 37,000 additional spots for NC Pre-K.
- Fill the gap that after-school programs in NC are facing— a \$50 million funding cliff with the loss of ESSER funds programs.

### A Breakdown of the 200 Schools that Received the Most Voucher Funds in 23-24

- 42% accreditation rate
- 8.5% report student outcomes
- 2% require teachers to hold NC teacher certification
- 90.5% are religiously affiliated