

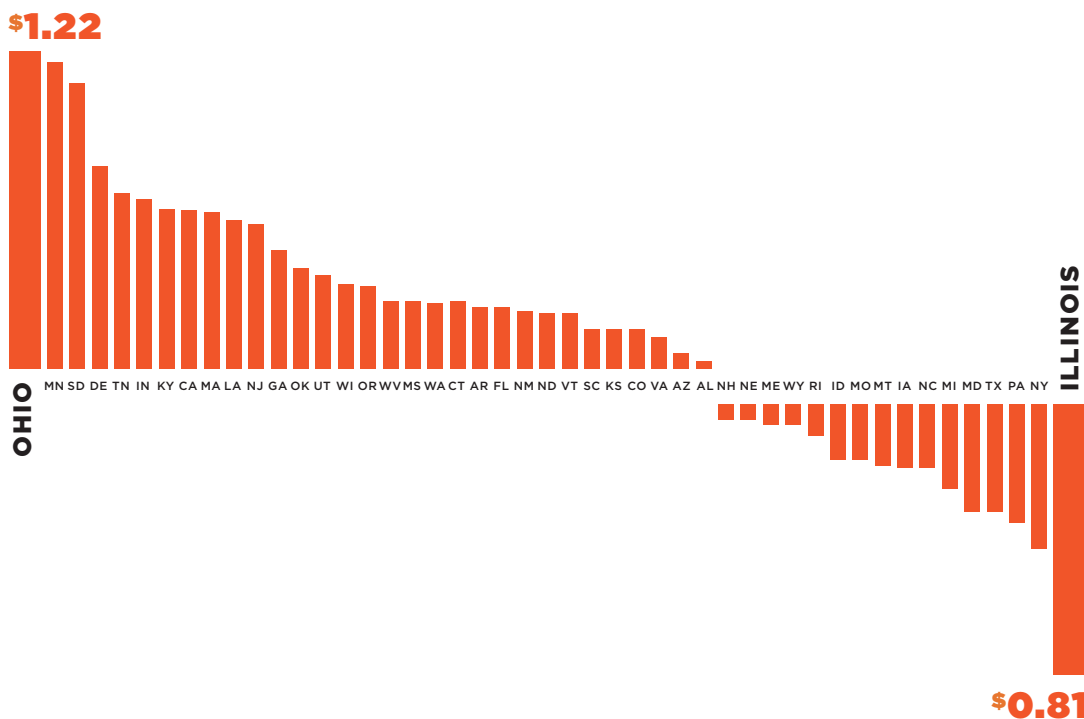
THE SYSTEM FOR SCHOOL FUNDING IN ILLINOIS REMAINS INEQUITABLE

Funding Illinois' Future urges Illinois to adopt an equitable system that closes the funding gaps between low-income students and their wealthier peers. The way Illinois funds K-12 education is upside-down: For every dollar Illinois spends on a non-low-income student, the state spends only 81 cents on a low-income student, ranking worst-in-the-nation in providing resources for low-income school districts. Research shows low-income students need more

resources to support their learning than their wealthier peers, not less. Low-income students score up to 35 percentage points lower on achievement tests than their wealthier peers, yet in Illinois low-income students are faced with larger class sizes, fewer special classes like art and music, outdated textbooks and increased student activity fees. School funding in Illinois deepens inequities and leaves too few students prepared for college, career and democratic citizenship.

Source: The Education Trust

FOR EVERY \$1 SPENT ON A NON-LOW-INCOME STUDENT, OHIO SPENDS \$1.22 ON A LOW-INCOME STUDENT. ILLINOIS SPENDS \$0.81.



FUNDING ILLINOIS' FUTURE BELIEVES AN EQUITABLE SYSTEM:

1. Recognizes individual student need
2. Accounts for difference in local resources
3. Closes funding gaps between low-income students and wealthier peers in 5 years and keeps them closed
4. Provides a stable and sustainable solution

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MUST PASS A BIPARTISAN SOLUTION TO INEQUITABLE FUNDING

Without funding reform, Illinois risks letting another generation pass through its schools without preparing its students for college and career. It's time to fix the formula and give all students in Illinois the education they deserve.

ABOUT FUNDING ILLINOIS' FUTURE

Funding Illinois' Future is a coalition of more than 200 school district superintendents, educators and and faith-based organizations committed to ensuring that all Illinois students have the resources they need to succeed. For more information, visit www.fundingillfuture.org, like us on Facebook @FundingILFuture or follow us on Twitter @FundILFuture.

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*Superintendents and School Districts are members of the Funding Illinois' Future Coalition.