

SCHOOL
HOUSE
BURNING



Public Education *and the*
Assault *on* American Democracy

DEREK W. BLACK

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Public Education *and the*
Assault *on* American Democracy



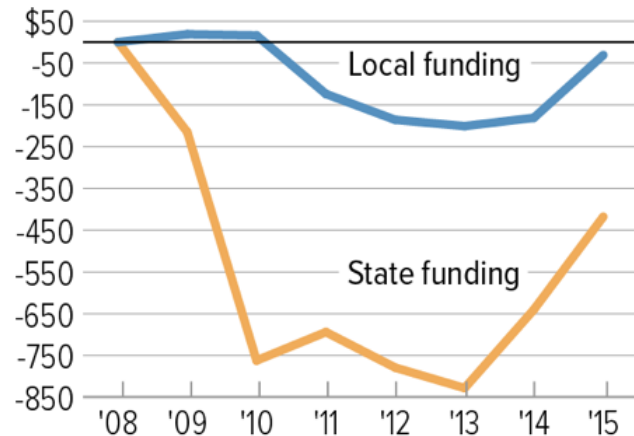
The Perfect Storm

- School Funding Cuts
- Privatization through Charters and Vouchers
- War on the Teaching Profession

The Great Disinvestment

K-12 Funding Fell Sharply After Recession Hit

Change in funding per pupil compared to 2008, inflation adjusted



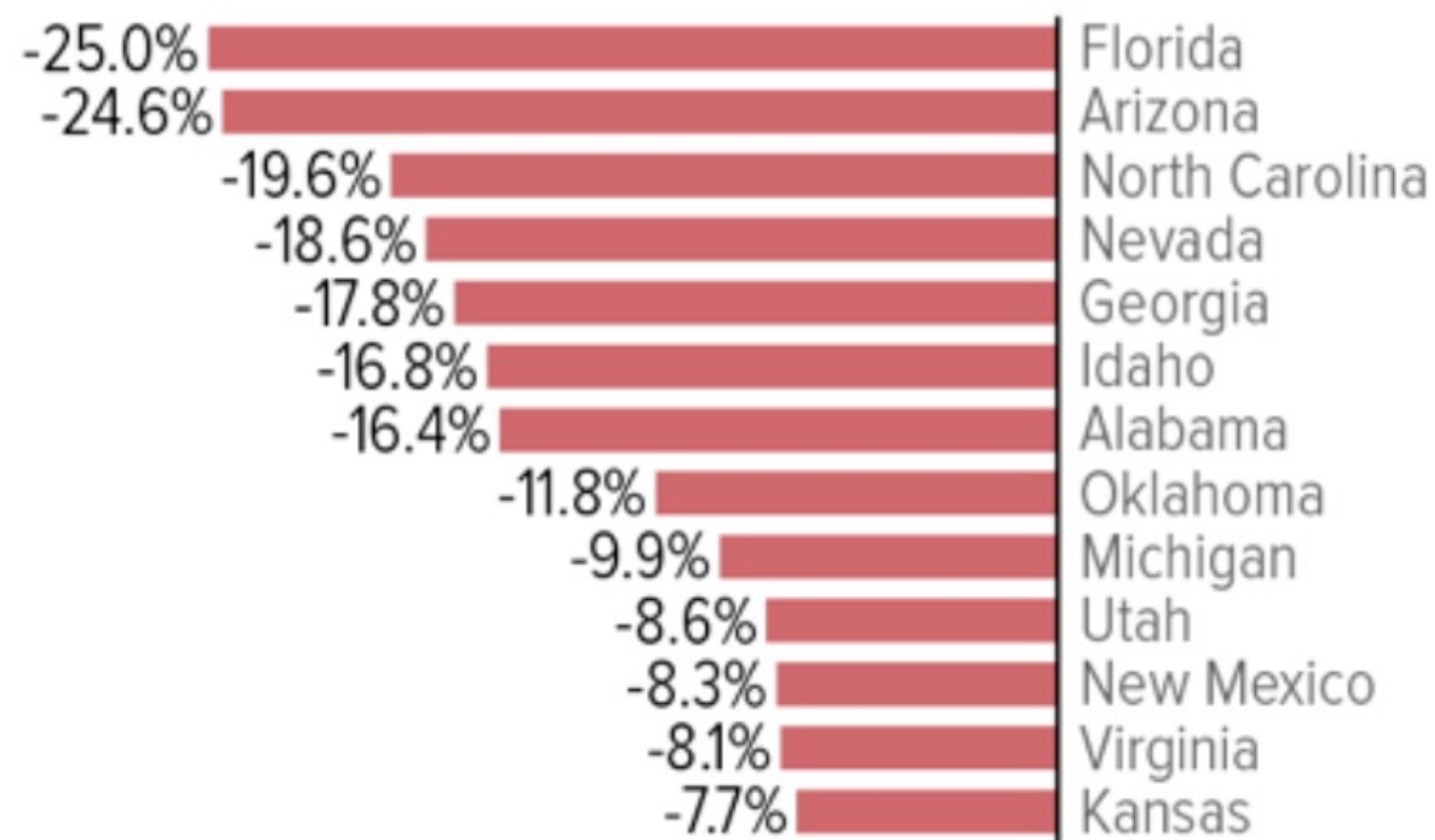
Note: Excludes Hawaii and Indiana due to lack of data.

Source: CBPP analysis of U.S. Census Bureau, "Public Education Finances: 2015."

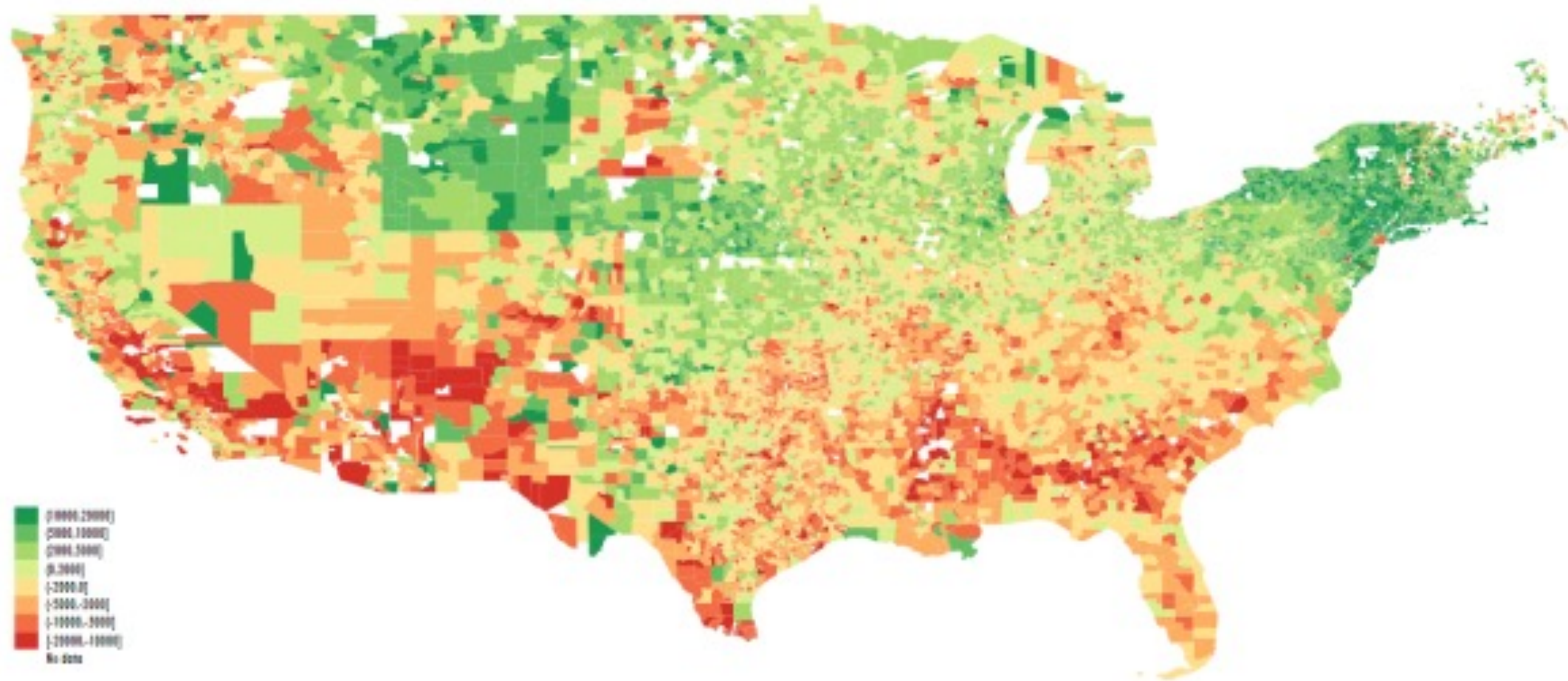


Combined State and Local School Funding Per Student Below 2008 Levels in Most States

Percent change, inflation adjusted, fiscal years 2008-2015

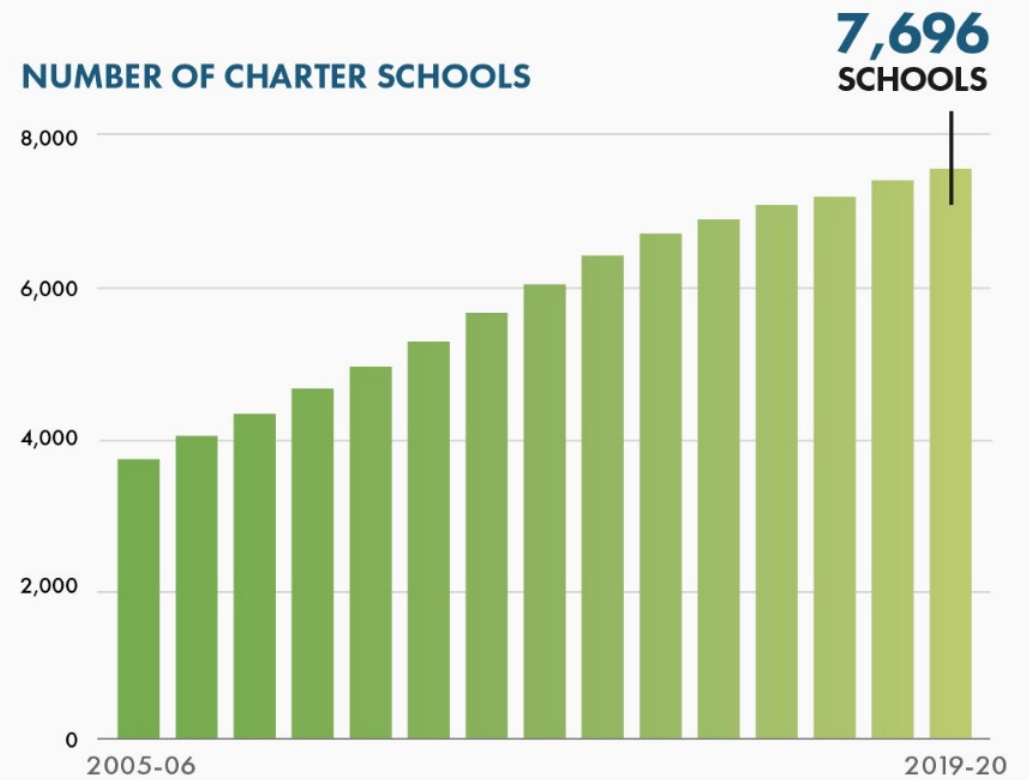
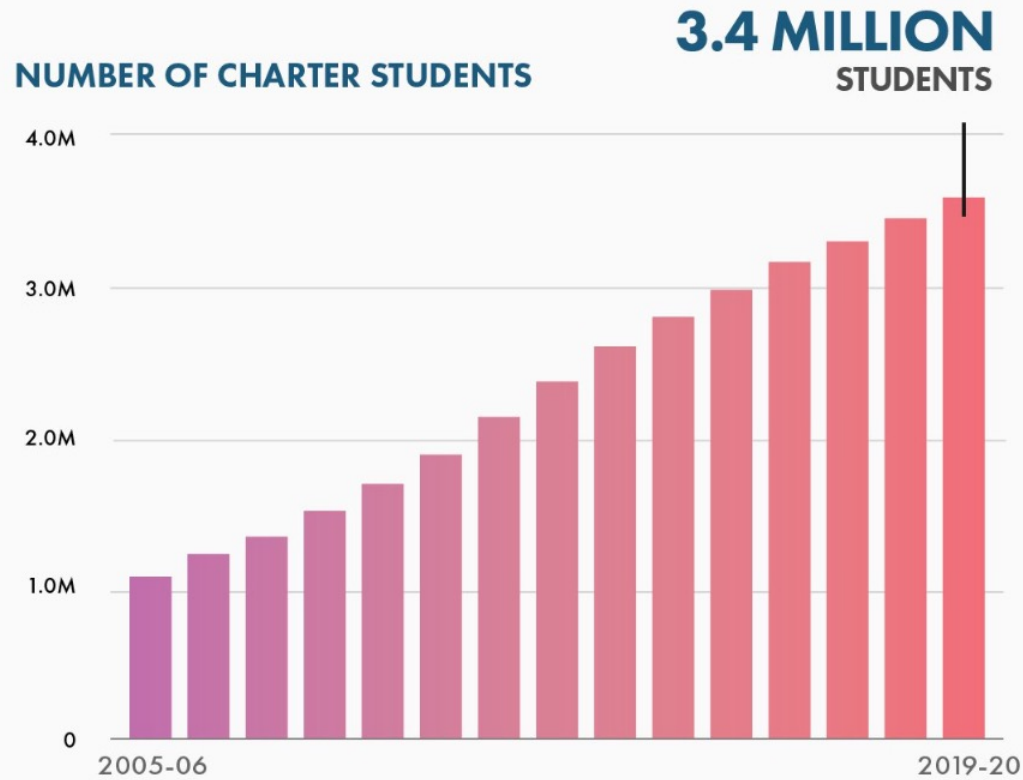


Funding Gaps



CHARTER SCHOOLS & STUDENTS

Since the 2005-06 school year, the number of charter schools and campuses has more than **DOUBLED**, while charter school enrollment has more than **TRIPLED**.



A WAR ON TEACHERS

Tenure, Tests, and Benefits

NOVEMBER 3, 2014

TIME



ROTTEN APPLES

IT'S NEARLY
IMPOSSIBLE
TO FIRE A
BAD TEACHER



SOME TECH
MILLIONAIRES
MAY HAVE
FOUND A WAY TO
CHANGE THAT

BY HALEY
SWEETLAND
EDWARDS

time.com



A Fourth Wave |



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

A DECLARATION

BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness-- That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Manner, as shall seem to them most likely to promote their Safety and Happiness.

Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the Necessity, that they are obliged to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governours to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained.

The Lens of History



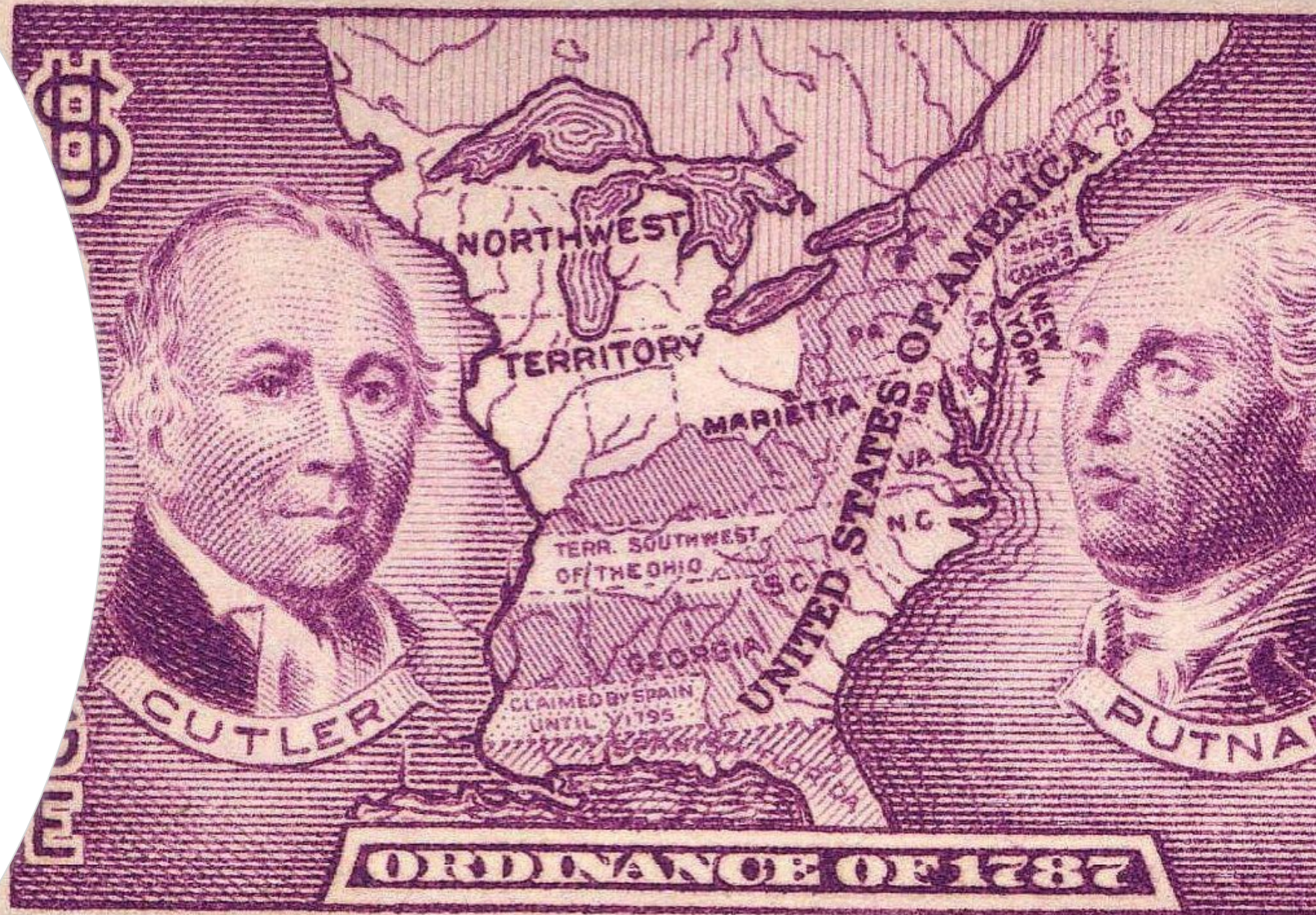
ADAMS AND JEFFERSON
Common Good, Liberty and Policy

Massachusetts Constitution of 1780: “It shall be the duty of legislatures and magistrates, in all future periods of this commonwealth, to cherish... the public schools and grammar schools in the towns.”

Virginia Bill of the More General Diffusion of Knowledge: “the most effectual means of preventing [tyranny] would be ... to illuminate ... the minds of the people at large” and to do it “at the common expence of all.”

Northwest Ordinances of 1785 and 1787

“schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.”

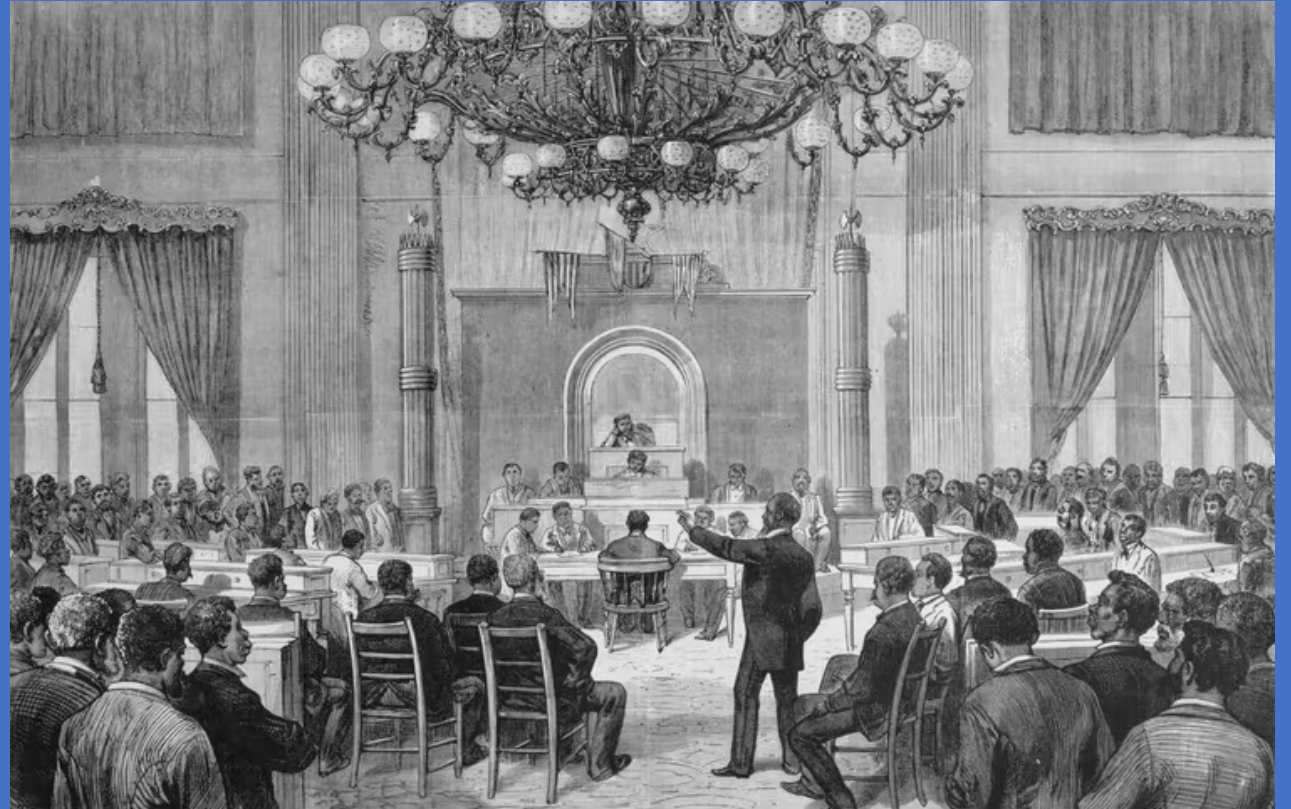


Failed Democracy

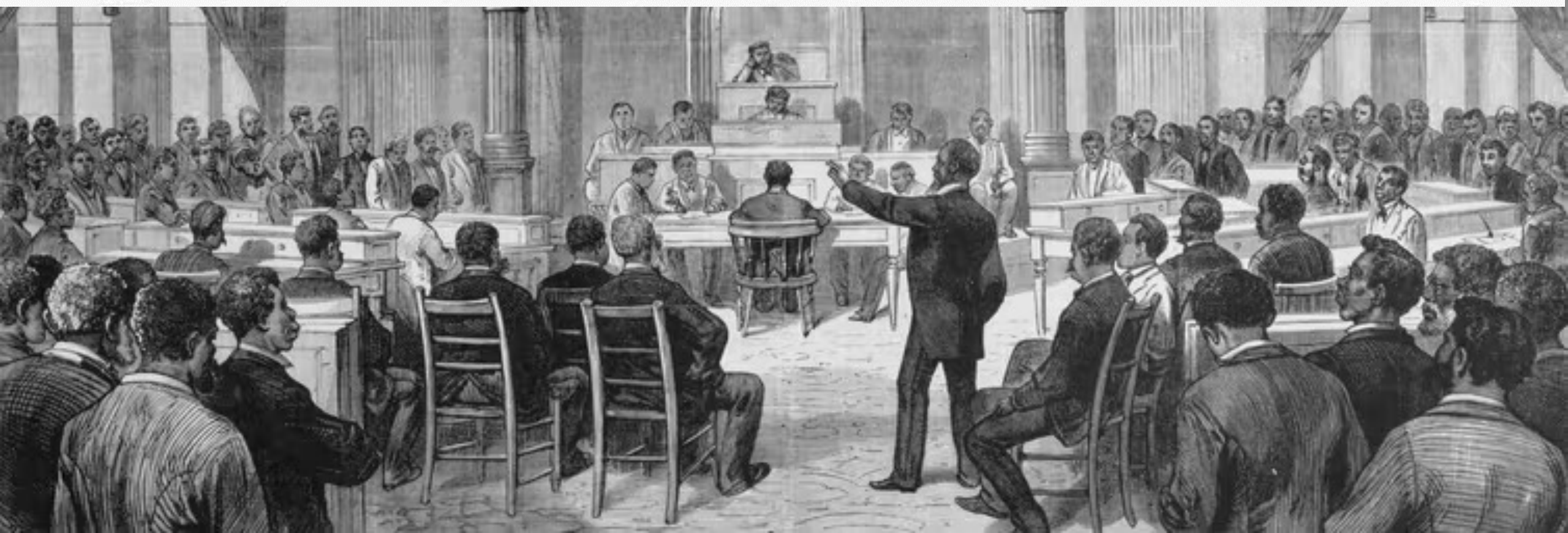




PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COLORED PEOPLE'S CONVENTION
OF THE
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
HELD IN
ZION CHURCH, CHARLESTON,
NOVEMBER, 1865.
TOGETHER WITH THE
DECLARATION OF RIGHTS AND WRONGS; AN ADDRESS TO
THE PEOPLE; A PETITION TO THE LEGISLATURE,
AND A MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS.

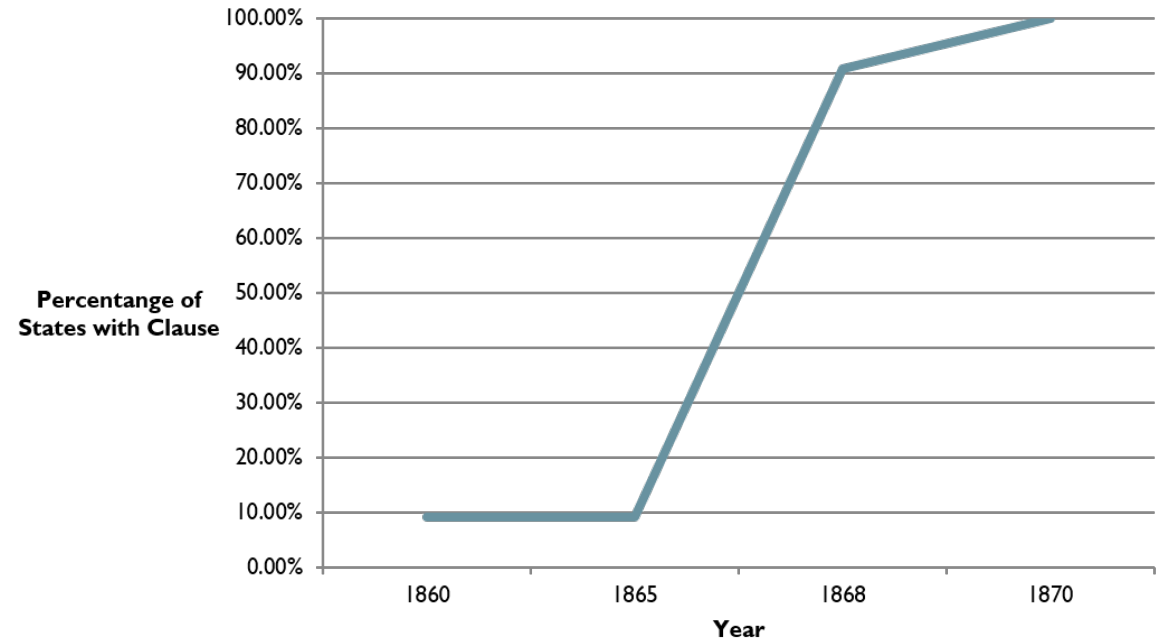
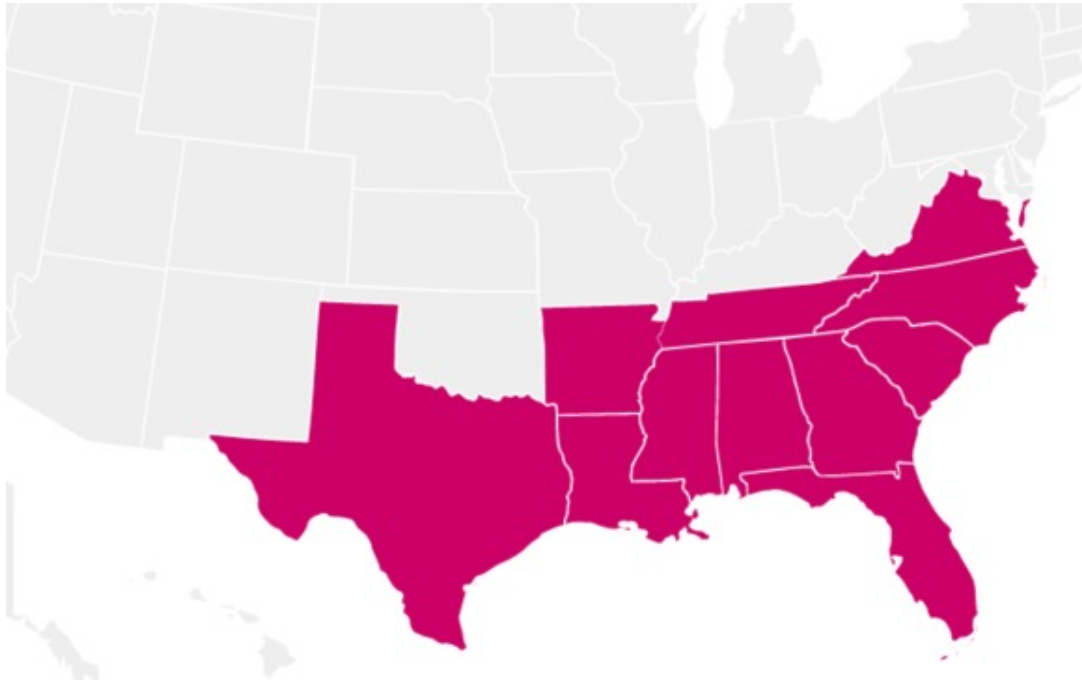


We ask that the three great agents of civilized society—the school, the pulpit, the press—be as secure in South Carolina as in Massachusetts or Vermont.

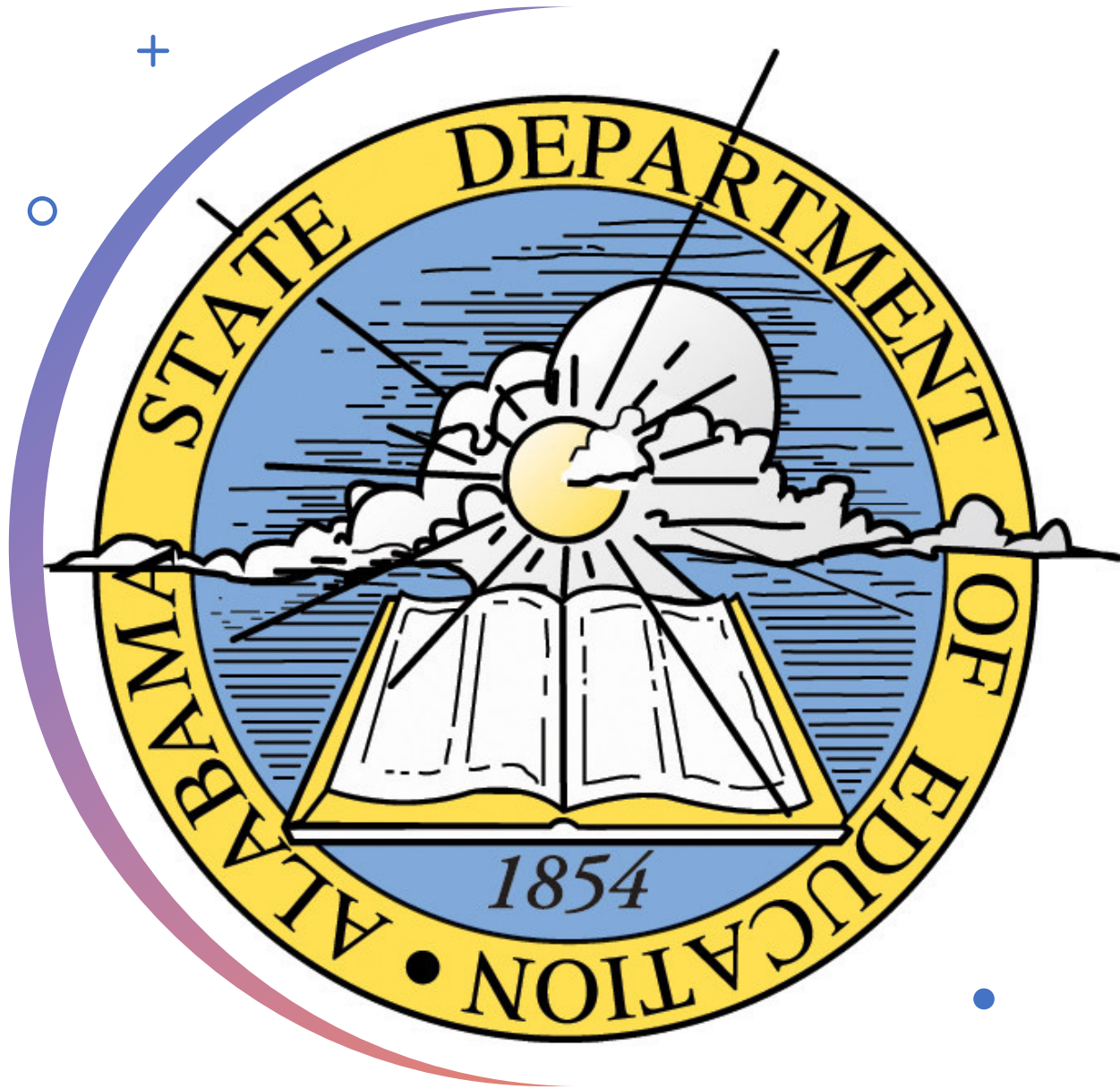


Restoring the Union: The Readmission of Southern States



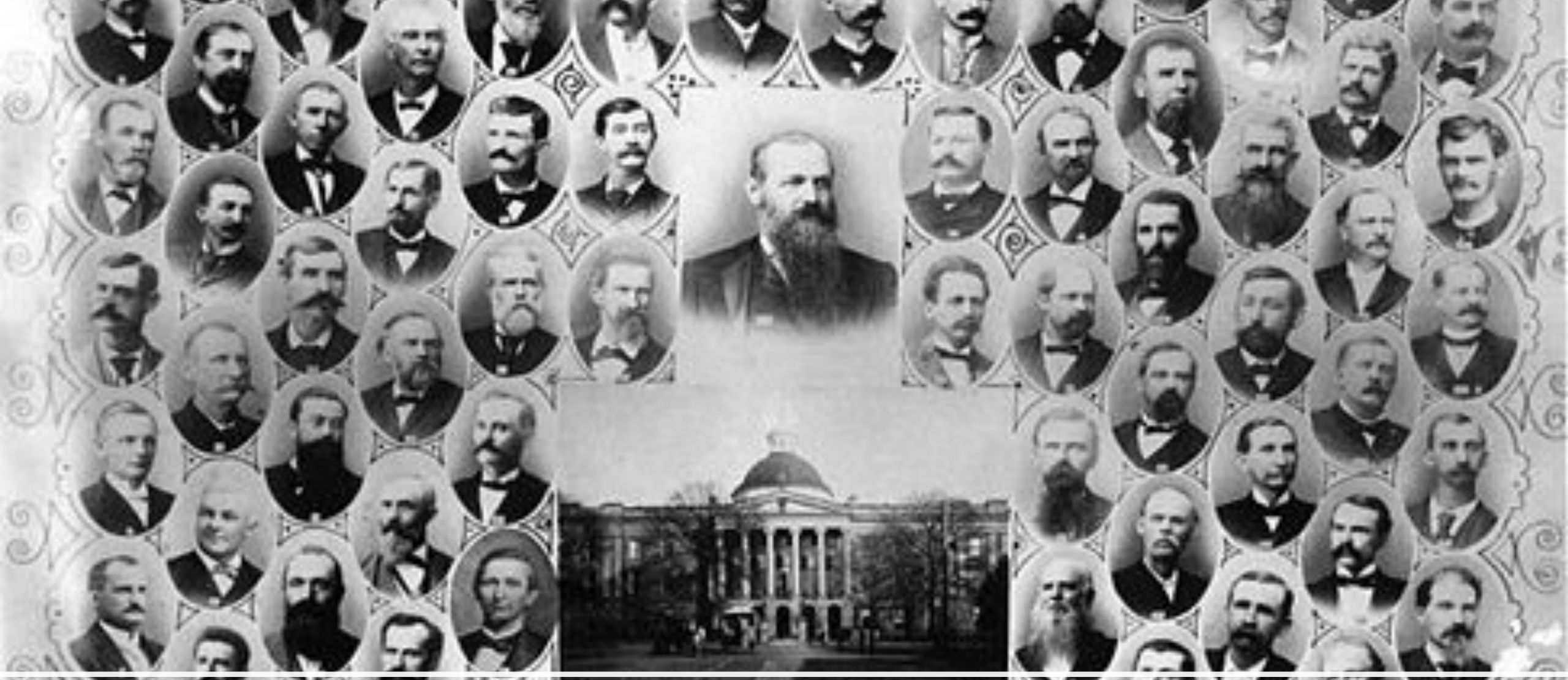


CONFEDERATE STATES WITH EDUCATION CLAUSES



A New Branch of Government

- ALA. CONST. OF 1868 art. XI, §2 (Superintendent election and office in the capital).
- ALA. CONST. OF 1868 art. XI, §5 (board "shall exercise full legislative powers in reference to the public educational institutions").



Mississippi Constitutional Convention of 1890



Alabama Constitution of 1901

- Mandated Segregation in Place of Schools for All
- Authorized keeping local poll taxes
- Local discretion to facilitate segregation
- Altered powers of the state superintendent, removed board

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA

AS ADOPTED BY THE

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, SEPTEMBER

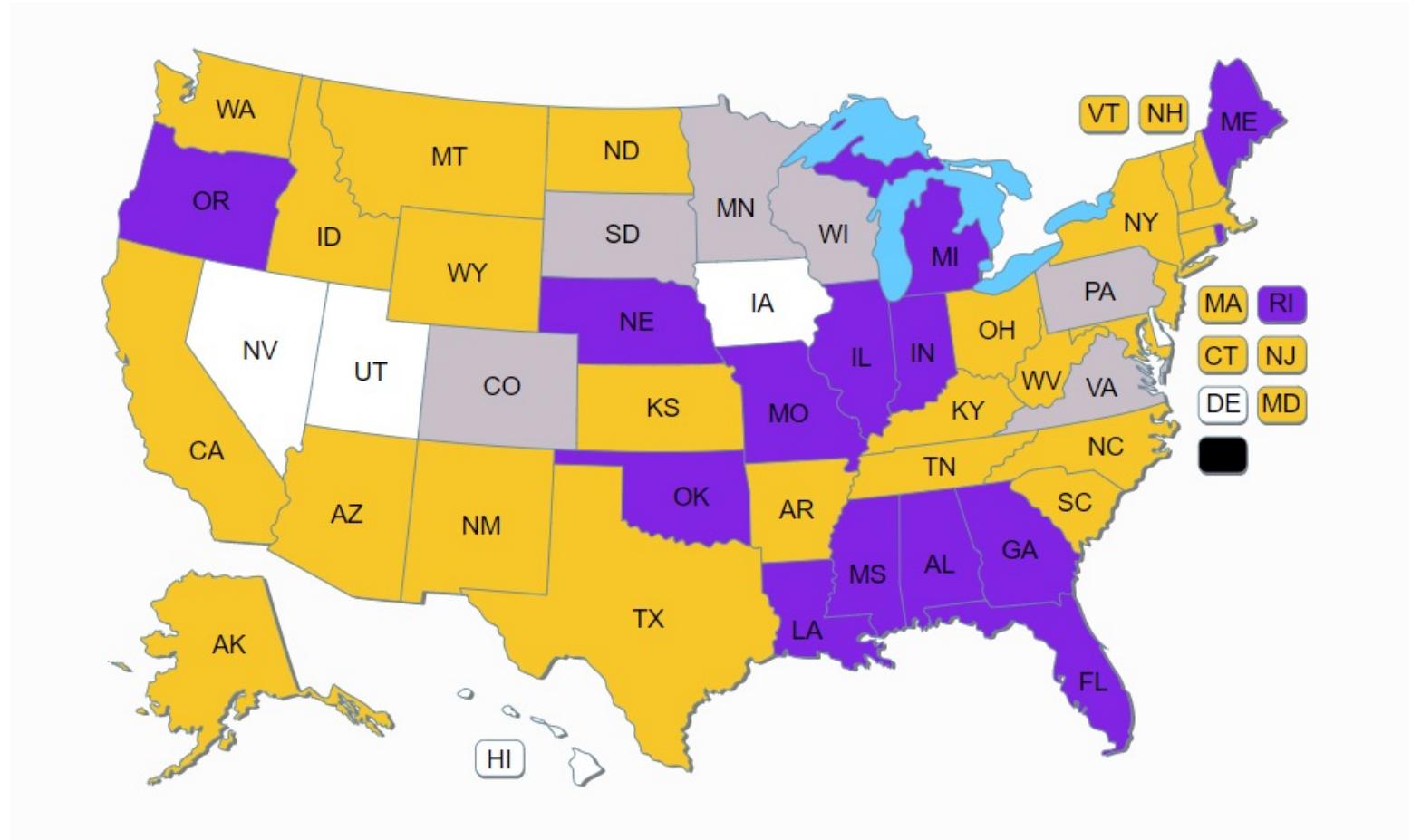
AND IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 28, 1901

WITH AMENDMENTS



Charles Hamilton Houston and the NAACP's Strategy to End Segregation

The Constitutional Right to Education



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

OPINION | COMMENTARY

Is the Public School System Constitutional?

Education consists mostly in speech, and parents have a right under the First Amendment to exercise authority over what their children hear.

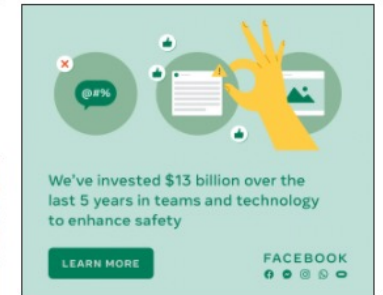
By Philip Hamburger
Oct. 22, 2021 6:41 pm ET


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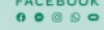
ILLUSTRATION: PHIL FOSTER



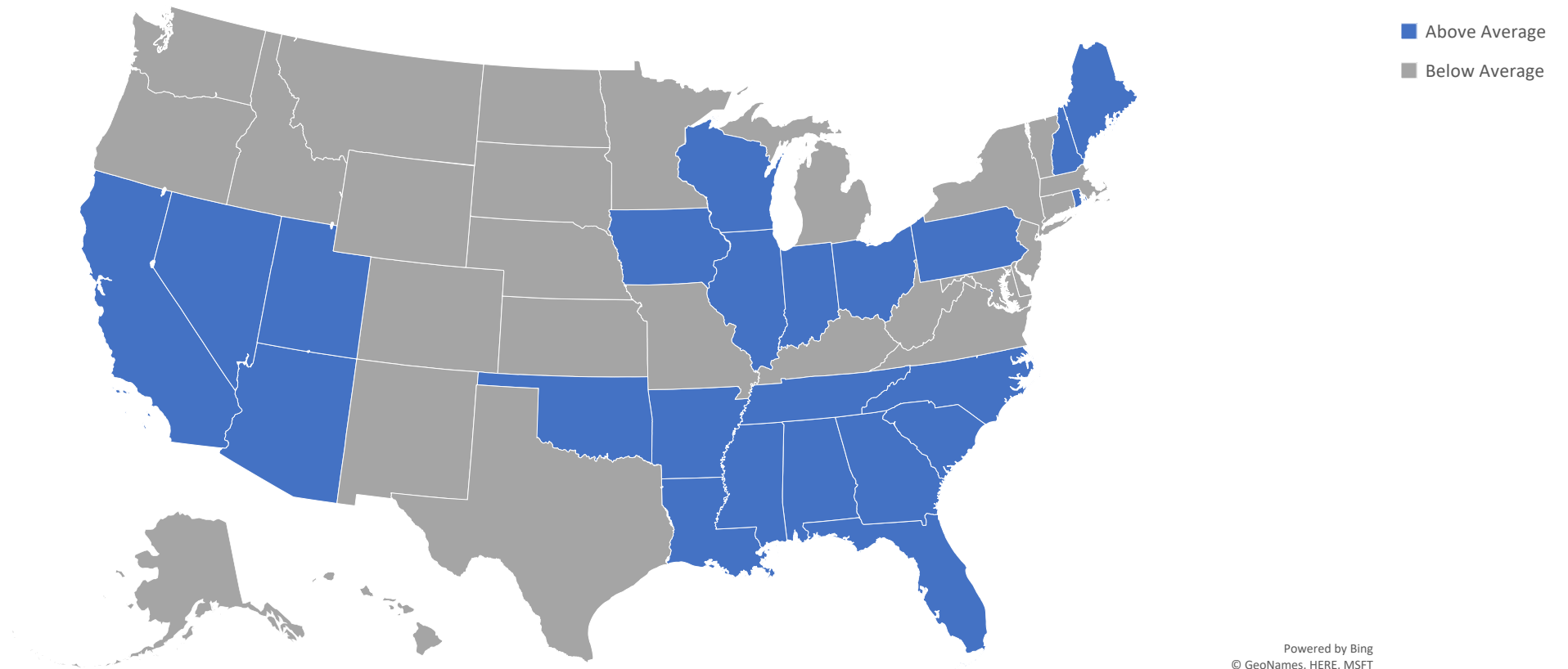


We've invested \$13 billion over the last 5 years in teams and technology to enhance safety

[LEARN MORE](#)

FACEBOOK 

States with Above Average Privatization of Public Education



Your Charge

