

*You Are Cordially Invited to join
The Thomas Jefferson Institute for Public Policy
For our Annual
Education Policy Luncheon
Featuring
A Discussion of
**“The Legal Consequences of a Tuition Assistance Grant
For Students With Disabilities”***

With

William H. Hurd

*Former Virginia State Solicitor General
Former Deputy Virginia Attorney General
Partner, Troutman Sanders LLP*

*Sponsored by
Verizon Foundation*

**Friday, November 21, 2008
11:30am**

**The Williamsburg Lodge
310 S. England Street
Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia**

\$20.00 per person

Even in the best schools, children with disabilities often have special needs that are difficult to obtain in a “one size fits all” system. No matter how superb a school’s programs may be, those with special needs usually require a more customized education that is often too challenging for a system trying to educate a broad range of children.

When parents and school systems disagree about that customized education, it often leads to expensive and antagonistic IEP meetings, due process hearings and lawsuits.

But the parents in five states (Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Ohio and Utah) are able to obtain state scholarships to send their children to the public or private school that will best meet their child’s unique needs.

In the past, legislation has been introduced to offer the same kind of scholarship (or Tuition Assistance Grant) in Virginia. Many questions have been raised about the possibility of such a program here. The parents

of special education students, long used to working within a tightly-regulated procedure, are uncertain of what they would have to do – or what hard-fought rights they might lose. And those who oppose increasing parental options have raised the specter of unmonitored schools and expensive lawsuits.

Our November 21 luncheon will seek to answer many of those questions and review the legal consequences of a Tuition Assistance Grant for Students With Disabilities.

You will hear remarks by William Hurd, partner in the Richmond law firm of Troutman Sanders and former Virginia State Solicitor General. He has represented parties on both sides of the special education divide, both representing and advising parents on legal rights involving disputes with local school divisions (including *Reid Tutwiler vs. Henrico County School Board*), and serving as lead counsel for Virginia in securing the right of states to discipline students for misconduct unrelated to their disability.

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 YES! I plan to attend the November 21 luncheon in Williamsburg. Please reserve me ____ seat(s) at the luncheon. I have enclosed \$20.00 per person in payment of the lunch.

To RSVP:

- By Mail: Send a check, payable to “Thomas Jefferson Institute for Public Policy” to the address below.
- By Fax: Fax this form to 703-455-1531.
- By Phone: Call (703) 922-6768 to place your reservation.

I cannot attend but would like more information about “Tuition Assistance Grants for Students With Disabilities. Please add me to your mail/email list for this purpose.

Name _____

Title/Position _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____