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People speak out on Issue 8

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ISSUE 8 OPPONENTS

Jack Sombati, campaign chairman of Ohio Council 8 AFSCME Save Our Sewer and Water Committee: *"If you don't live or work in the city of Akron for 30 years, you have to pay the money back. . . . It's not a scholarship. It's a loan."*

Greg Coleridge, director, Economic Justice & Empowerment Program, American Friends Service Committee: *"Issue 8 is not a plan. It's an outline, a sketch, a beginning rough draft. There is no language in Issue 8 categorically stating the degree or amount of financial aid qualifying students will receive."*

ISSUE 8 PROPONENTS

Ron Kitchens, chief executive of Southwest Michigan First (Kalamazoo Promise): *"Frankly, it is a visionary plan. . . . You leverage an existing infrastructure to help secure the city's future by investing in education for children."*

Rick Merolla, Akron's Public Service Director: *"The mayor's plan does what everybody wants and that is to give opportunities to the next generations to come. . . . The protections we have in place on the sewer lease with the rates and maintenance standards ensure the system will continue to be well run and managed."*

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