

Factoids For the
Democratic Caucus
Hearing on

Public Education Funding

Jackson, Mississippi
April 14, 2016

Presented by

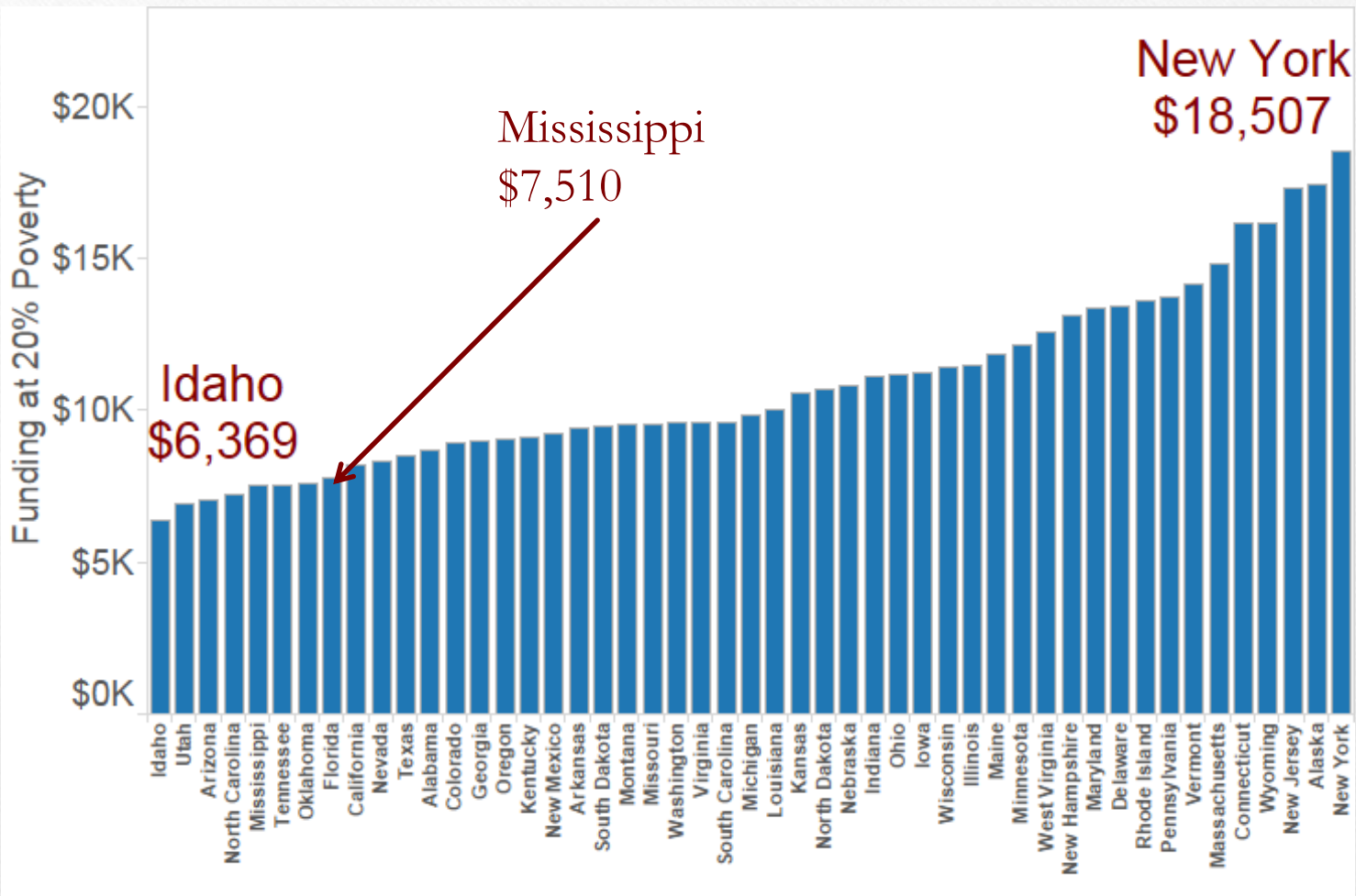
Dr. Irving Hamer

Fair School Funding Defined

- “Fair” school funding is defined as a state finance system that provides a sufficient level of funding to ensure equality of educational opportunity, with funding distributed to districts within the state to account for additional needs generated by student poverty.

- Education Law Center, Is School Funding Fair? A National Report Card

Large Disparities in Funding Levels



MDE Strategic Plan Goals vs. \$7,510?

- All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
- Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career
- Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
- Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
- Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

Economic Development in the New Millennium

- Finance
- Technology
- Electronics
- Medical
 - Funding does not support development of human capital for economic future of Mississippi
 - Under educated, unemployed citizens is an expense item
 - Pay now or later

Requirements for a New Middle Class

- Universal PreK
- Highly Effective Teachers in Every Classroom
- Mobile, Computing Device for Every Student
- Career and College Ready Students
- Alignment of Education, PreK-16
- Accelerated Achievement

Policies That Promulgate Low Performance

- Low Teacher Compensation
- Retention of Students in 3rd Grade
- MDE Managing Districts or Schools
- Unfunded Mandates (e.g. expansion of Charter Schools...)
- Punishments for Low Performance

What Can Be Done

- Collaboration Instead of Competition
- Transparent Policy Making (e.g. developing MAEP...)
- Strategic Planning for Capacity Building
- Innovations that Trump Old, Bad Practice (e.g. competency based education, virtual schools...)
- \$.01 Surcharge Dedicated to Public Education