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To all media houses

COPE Gauteng Concerned About the Department of Education's Online Registration System

For immediate release:

The Congress of The People (COPE) in Gauteng has raised concerns about the Department of Education's online registration system, especially its impact on communities and parents across the province. Acting Provincial Chairperson Tom Mofokeng condemned the system, saying it fails to effectively serve the people. Long queues have been reported at schools, with parents struggling to register their children for the 2025 academic year. The system is particularly disadvantageous to parents and learners from township, rural areas, and informal settlements.

"Many families lack the necessary resources, such as data or internet access, to complete the online registration process. Some learners, particularly those living with grandparents, are further disadvantaged," said Mofokeng.

"While acknowledging the importance of the 4th Industrial Revolution, COPE believes that technological advancements should not marginalise communities that are already facing economic hardships."

COPE proposes the introduction of a hybrid registration system, allowing schools to manage their own registration processes at a local level or based on individual needs. The party argues that relying solely on provincial and regional education offices to assist the disadvantaged is insufficient.


Obtaining compliance documents such as proof of residence remains a challenge for many families, complicating the registration process.

"COPE calls on the Department of Education to review the current online registration system and ensure it is inclusive and accessible to every South African," Mofokeng added.

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