

CHARTER REFORM PRIORITIES

In 2020-2021, Pennsylvanians will spend \$2.8 billion on student tuition bills for charter and cyber charter schools. Most of this funding will come from property taxes. PA's weak charter school law has allowed the flagrant waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer money in the charter sector, while many charters underperform academically and struggle to operate efficiently and ethically.



END OVERPAYMENTS TO CYBER CHARTER SCHOOLS.

Local taxpayers pay twice as much for cyber charter schools as they pay for district operated cyber programs. Cybers waste the excess funding they receive from districts on lobbying, advertising, contracts with PR firms, lavish CEO salaries, and more.

APPLY STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING FORMULA TO CHARTER SCHOOLS TO MATCH PAYMENTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WITH THE ACTUAL COST OF SERVICES.

Charter schools should not reap a profit off of payments for students with disabilities.



PREVENT DISCRIMINATORY ENROLLMENT, DISCIPLINE AND SUSPENSION PRACTICES IN CHARTERS.

Guard against charters cherry picking students by holding charters accountable for educating children who match the demographics of the districts from which they draw students.

STRENGTHEN LOCAL CONTROL BY LIMITING THE POWER OF THE CHARTER APPEALS BOARD (CAB).

An unelected bureaucratic entity in Harrisburg should not have the power to overturn sound decisions made by school boards and mandate the expansion of charter schools into communities that do not need them and cannot afford to pay for them.



IMPROVE ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ACADEMIC AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE.

Charter schools represent 6% of student enrollment in the state, but fully 25% of the lowest performing schools in Pennsylvania. Charter schools should offer students a choice that is better than the school that they are leaving.

END NEPOTISM, FINANCIAL SELF-DEALING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AMONG CHARTER ADMINISTRATORS, BOARDS AND RELATED COMPANIES & ENSURE TRANSPARENCY FOR HOW TAXPAYER MONEY IS SPENT.

Pennsylvania's weak law creates vast opportunities for the waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer dollars.



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