

**ED, CharterRegs**

From: John Ruddy <john.ruddy@myhgsd.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 11:01 AM
To: ED, CharterRegs
Subject: [External] Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools
Attachments: TuitionLetter.docx

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To: The Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission

Please see the attached letter regarding Regulation #6-349 on Charter Schools.

Regards,

Dr. John A. Ruddy

October 12, 2021

To: The Pennsylvania Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market St, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101
RA-EDCharterRegs@pa.gov

RE: Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

I write to express my opposition to the above referenced regulation regarding Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools. I currently serve on the Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School (HGMICS) Board of Directors as its Treasurer.

The above regulation will do nothing to fix the problems between charter schools and district schools when it comes to the transfer of funding so that students get their resources at the schools that they attend in a prompt manner. In fact, the Department of Education, the group that is pushing for these regulations, actually hopes that fewer charter schools can ask for redirections of tuitions for their students. And the Department is hoping to save less than \$60,000 annually with this regulation, even if it costs charter school students millions collectively across Pennsylvania. That is simply wrong.

I present my opposition to this regulation by means of several rhetorical questions: why would the Department of Education make it harder for a group of kids in PA's K-12 public education world that are, generally speaking, more apt of be poor, Black, Brown, and from hardscrabble neighborhoods? Why would the Wolf Administration want charter schools that have seen enrollments almost double in the last 10 years want to stop these schools from serving kids that have been struggling for the longest time? Why would the state put a regulation into place that can make it harder for these schools to get taxpayer dollars that are already set aside to help my kids and kids like mine? All to save \$60,000? That's worth fewer than 10 minutes of time for the Department's annual budget.

The Wolf Administration should stop this and work with the elected officials in Harrisburg to make laws that help those most in need in both public district schools and public charter schools. Doing it through regulations written by some unelected lobbyist is **not** the answer.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely Yours,



Dr. John A. Ruddy
John.ruddy@myhgsd.com