



ED, CharterRegs

From: Bella Wick <bellawick20@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:32 PM
To: ED, CharterRegs
Subject: [External] PDE proposed regulation #6-349

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IIRC, Secretary Noe Ortega,

I oppose this regulation as it is detrimental to myself, charter and cyber charter schools.

Any changes to the charter schools (charter school law) should follow the regular legislative process and not circumvent them. It is blatantly clear, this is a lame duck attempt at avoiding the regular government process. As a student currently enrolled in a cyber charter school, I have found that my cyber charter has been more effective in providing a quality education than my local school district. Furthermore, they have more support and opportunities for me than my local school district, such as supplies, evening support hours, field trips and clubs. In addition, they are transparent with curriculum, grades, and communication.

It is clear that this regulation comes down to the idea of potentially saving money and not about education or student outcomes. This is knee jerk action to the influx in charter enrollment and the decrease in enrollment in public school districts. If school districts didn't have an issue with retention, (-3%), we wouldn't have this conversation. Instead of placing blame on charters, I recommend looking at the systemic flaws of school districts. For example, prior to COVID, my local school had a broken oven for over a year. Also, my local school district couldn't even provide soap or toilet paper in our bathrooms. If you are serious about more stringent policies, I highly suggest that you put the same regulations in place for school districts FIRST.

I support flexible opportunities for learners as education is not one size fits all. I would actually like 100% of the funding for myself and students like me to follow us to the schools of our choice. Please stop funding the institutions and start funding the child.

I love my charter school. Please don't take this away from me.

Again, this is reserved to be decided on by the General Assembly and not in regulation.

Thank you,
Bella Wick
Levittown, PA 19057
bellawick20@gmail.com