#3315

Form Letter C 349-357

October 12, 2021

From:	Kathleen McCarthy <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 2:41 PM
To:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Dear Secretary Ortega and the Pennsylvania Department of Education,

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The Pennsylvania Department of Education is a taxpayer-funded agency whose stated mission is "to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens." This proposed regulation does not support your agency's mission and is harmful toward the 150,000-plus public charter school students, parents and educators in the state.

The majority of Pennsylvania's charter school students are underserved. Whether it's a failing school, lack of resources or their emotional and learning needs were simply not being met in the school district, charter schools are serving a population that chose another option. You cannot treat these students, parents and educators as second-class citizens.

My charter school works hard to ensure students have the tools to succeed. It conducts yearly audits and abides by the same reporting standards as district schools, but this regulation would increase the requirements for charter schools only.

This regulation is punitive toward charter schools and would burden them with additional challenges and requirements to maintain operations or grow to serve their student populations. For example, new schools or schools that wish to renew or expand would be required to go through an application process that lacks objective standards and a consistent process.

As you know, the authorizer charged with approving these ambiguous applications is the school district, when a majority of school districts have publicly opposed charter schools and are actively fighting to shut them down. This is essentially the status quo anti-charter process that's been used for years, with no positive reform. Our students end up paying the price for these political games.

Meanwhile, there is no application requirement for district schools to open, renew or expand their campuses.

The pandemic made clear that families need more choices for education, not fewer. One size does not fit all was made clear when more than 22,000 students enrolled in charter schools last year.

Throughout the pandemic, charter schools have shared resources and collaborated within the educational community to ensure students have continuity of education and the tools for a quality education. They should be collaborated with as leaders in the education community, not targeted with overreaching regulations.

Every child and parent in Pennsylvania deserves the right to choose the public education option best for them. It is clear anti-charter special interest groups are driving this proposed regulation. Stop playing politics with our children's futures.

Sincerely, Kathleen McCarthy 1032 Hickory Valley Rd, Stroudsburg, PA 18360, USA macmomisgma@gmail.com

From:	Christine Texter <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 1:55 PM
To:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Christine Texter 116 Main St, Shippenville, PA 16254, USA Texter36@gmail.com

From:	Toni Patrick <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 10:50 AM
То:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Toni Patrick 410 Laurel Ln, Norristown, PA 19403, USA tspcapi@comcast.net

From:Erwin Kerr < noreply@citizenwindow.io>Sent:Saturday, October 9, 2021 9:12 AMTo:ED, CharterRegsSubject:[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Erwin Kerr 5091 Lantern Hill Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, USA ervkerr@verizon.net

From:	Barbara Kerr <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 9:03 AM
То:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Barbara Kerr 5091 Lantern Hill Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15236, USA bkerr5091@verizon.net

From:	Sherrilynn Ambrose <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 9:00 AM
То:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Sherrilynn Ambrose 4200 Outlook Dr, West Mifflin, PA 15122, USA Sherrijoe@hotmail.com

From:	Courtney Thompson <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 8:45 AM
То:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Courtney Thompson 2351 Glendale Ave, Erie, PA 16510, USA mikeandcourtney@gmail.com

From:	Christine McCloskey <noreply@citizenwindow.io></noreply@citizenwindow.io>
Sent:	Saturday, October 9, 2021 8:22 AM
To:	ED, CharterRegs
Subject:	[External] Opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools

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Sincerely, Christine McCloskey 3723 Lilac Ln, Philadelphia, PA 19136, USA christinemccloskey@comcast.net