

**ED, CharterRegs**

From: Hughes, Brian S. <brian_hughes@merck.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:45 AM
To: ED, CharterRegs
Cc: info@pacharters.org; scsc4kids@hotmail.com
Subject: [External] Opposition to Charter Regulation #6-349
Attachments: CharterSchool_letterA.docx

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Hi,

Please see attached letter in opposition to the proposed regulation of charter schools. Let me know if I can be of any further help.

Regards,

Brian Hughes
MMR Bulk Operations
x-27602

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13 Oct 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 am writing to express my opposition to Regulation #6-349: Charter Schools and Cyber Charter Schools.

This regulation does not create a fair playing field between authorizers and charter school operators trying to give parents another choice in K-12 education. As written, the regulation allows authorizers to drown charter school administrators in red tape and cost. This regulation is designed to make it nearly impossible for existing charter schools to renew their charters, and for new schools to get approved.

The regulation encourages school districts to regulate charter schools in much the same way as existing schools. This flies in the face of the spirit of the Charter School legislation. The entire reason for charter schools is to allow them the freedom and flexibility to innovate and provide a better choice for some parents than the existing public schools.

These regulations are not offered to help Pennsylvania parents. They seem to be proposed to help the authorizers, not the charter schools and the parents that keep enrolling their kids there. If the parents and teachers at existing charter schools are happy, then the system works. If they are not happy, they will move their children or find a different school to teach at. I have been a charter school parent for 12 years and am delighted by the education my 4 children have received. The teachers love the school and there is very little teacher turnover. These regulations are an attempt to take these choices away from parents and educators.

It is my hope that you rescind this process and work with elected lawmakers to create policies that make sense for all schools. Creating laws through unelected bureaucrats is not what democracy is all about.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brian Hughes
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