



**From:** Diane Laison, <laison@temple.edu>  
**Sent:** 2021-10-17 17:33:23 EST  
**To:** [RA-EDCharterRegs@pa.gov](mailto:RA-EDCharterRegs@pa.gov)  
**Subject:** Public comment in support of PDE proposed charter regulation #6-349

Dear Secretary Ortega,

Some years ago, I myself received - completely unsolicited - an offer by mail suggesting I start a charter school!! There was no indication that my qualifications (for anything at all) were known to the source of that letter. The letter assured me this promised to be a highly profitable pursuit. Unfortunately I found the communication so absurd that I discarded the letter, rather than to investigate what later seemed to me a possible scam. But what level of scam? I now question whether the entire charter school is a (financially highly successful) scam,

I am writing to support the proposed charter school regulation #6-349. I have followed the charter school issue for a long time and have been concerned with issues of accountability, equity, quality, and transparency in the charter sector.

I support requiring charter schools to follow generally accepted standards of fiscal management and audit requirements.

I support requiring the trustees of charter schools to be held to basic ethical standards and to disclose and abstain from any conflicts of interest.

I support a rigorous and standardized charter application process that will allow charter authorizers to hold prospective charter schools to high academic, fiscal, and administrative standards and help authorizers ensure charter schools are prepared to equitably serve all students.

I support a requirement for charter admissions policies to be publicly posted and I believe that discriminatory enrollment practices should be ended to ensure that all students have equal access to charter school education.

I support charter school teachers having access to good healthcare, just like their peers who teach at school districts.

These proposed regulations will bring clarity to the law and help to make charters more transparent and ethical. I support all of them.

Sincerely,

Diane Laison  
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