

Lisa Cataldi

From: Melissa Palumbo <melpal73@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 1:04 PM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: H7415

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Dear House Committee on Education,

I am writing to share my support for bill number H7415. It is my opinion that this bill should be approved in order to preserve the future of public schools in our state.

This is my 31st year as a teacher in Providence Public Schools. I have watched as thriving schools such as Broad Street Elementary have closed their doors to students and families. I have also seen countless strong, compassionate teachers leave the district as positions have been cut and funding has decreased.

Charters are creating parallel school systems in a state where we already have 39 cities and towns, each with their own district. Watching the announcements of closings during the blizzard was eye opening. We should be looking at ways to unify and combine districts in order to save money instead of increasing the spending.

Our schools are already struggling. Many of them do not have the appropriate materials and supplies and districts lose money to charters. Charters also do not meet the needs of all students and many end up coming back to the district midway through the year.

Please consider approval of this bill to cap charters and ensure that public schools have the funding our kids deserve.

Thank you for your consideration,

Melissa Palumbo
Pre-K Education Coordinator
Providence Public Schools