



March 10, 2026

**Subject: SEIU 1199NE Position in Support of H-7415**

Dear Chairman McNamara and Honorable Members of the House Education Committee:

On behalf of SEIU 1199NE, representing approximately 7,500 essential workers across Rhode Island — including healthcare, home care, and child care workers — we write in support of H-7415.

Many of the workers we represent are parents raising children in Rhode Island’s public schools. For working families, strong and stable public school systems are critical. Parents need to know that their local schools are adequately funded and able to provide the resources and support their children need to succeed.

H-7415 establishes reasonable guardrails around the expansion of charter schools by pausing the approval of new charter schools and expansions for a period of time. This pause allows the state to better assess how charter growth affects local public school districts and the communities they serve.

For many working families, public schools are not just educational institutions — they are also places where children receive important services, including special education support, counseling, meals, and other resources that help students succeed both inside and outside the classroom. When funding is diverted away from traditional public schools, it can place additional strain on the systems that serve the majority of Rhode Island’s students.

Taking time to evaluate how charter expansion impacts local districts helps ensure that public resources are used responsibly and that all students have access to a strong public education system.

For working families across Rhode Island, stable and adequately funded public schools are vital to their children’s success and to the long-term strength of our communities.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to support H-7415.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Moore".

Alex Moore

Political Director

SEIU 1199NE

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