From:	Diane Clift <cliftd@psdri.net>
Sent:	Sunday, March 8, 2026 4:34 PM
To:	House Education Committee
Subject:	Support H 7415 and H 8131: Stop Funding Wasteful Charters

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Dear Members of the Rhode Island Legislature,

I am writing to urge your support for **H 7415 (charter moratorium/cap reduction) and H 8131 (commission to study charter funding)**. Our public school system is under extreme distress, and the unlimited, unaccountable expansion of charter schools is directly causing this crisis.
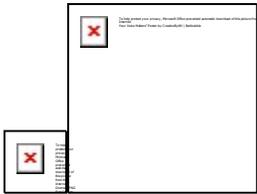
In Pawtucket, we are facing an $8 million deficit—the worst in a generation—forcing potential school closures and layoffs. Yet, we are sending $7.5 million in tuition to other districts for charters. This is financially unsustainable. Furthermore, forcing LEAs to fund busing for charter schools is putting an unbearable strain on local resources while stripping the best and brightest students from our public school classrooms.

Sixty-four superintendents agree that this system is inefficient. Why, after a decade of investing in local public school infrastructure, are we allowing public money to be sent out-of-state to corporate entities with zero accountability? Charter schools do not perform better than the schools they drain, yet they lack the transparent, public oversight that LEAs must follow.

We must protect taxpayers from this waste and fraud. Please support H 7415 to pause the expansion and H 8131 to investigate the true cost of charter schools.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Rhode Island Taxpayer

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