

**Lisa Cataldi**

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**From:** Tracey Kareemo <kareemot@psdri.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 9, 2026 1:12 PM  
**To:** House Education Committee  
**Subject:** H8131

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Dear Members of the Rhode Island Legislature,

I am writing as a Rhode Island public school educator with 30 years of experience in support of H8131, which would create a commission to study charter school funding and costs.

Public school districts are required to be fully transparent with how taxpayer dollars are spent. Every budget, contract, and expenditure is subject to public scrutiny. Charter schools receiving Rhode Island taxpayer dollars should be held to the same standard.

Currently, charter schools are not required to provide the same level of financial transparency as other public education agencies. Some charter networks send significant portions of funding out of state to large corporate offices, yet taxpayers and local communities have very limited visibility into how those funds are used.

If public dollars are funding these schools, the public deserves clear accountability. Rhode Island taxpayers should be able to see exactly how education funds are spent and understand the true cost of charter expansion to our communities.

H8131 simply asks for transparency and an honest look at the financial impact of charter schools. If charter schools have nothing to hide, then transparency should not be a concern.

Rhode Islanders deserve to know what charter schools are actually costing our public education system and our taxpayers.

Respectfully,  
T.Kareemo  
Rhode Island Public School Educator  
30 Years of Service

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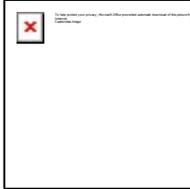
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