

**From:** [Donna Belden](#)  
**To:** [S Legislation](#); [Sen. Lawson, Valarie J](#); [Sen. de la Cruz, Jessica](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to S-2783, S-2784 & S-2787  
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Madam President, Chairwoman, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to S-2783, S-2784, and S-2787, which would significantly restrict charter school growth, governance, and access in Rhode Island.

At a time when families are actively seeking more high-quality public school options, these bills would reduce education choice, limit access to successful schools, and prevent the kind of innovation our public education system desperately needs.

A recent poll makes clear where Rhode Islanders stand: 88% believe families should be able to choose the type of public school that best meets their child's needs. 67% support expanding charter schools — including 83% of Hispanic voters. 58% oppose a moratorium.

I respectfully urge you to oppose all three bills and preserve the ability of charter schools to grow, innovate, and serve the families who are counting on them.

H 8531, I urge you to also oppose this bill. Parents authority must always override a local school committees decision to delay or deny homeschooling requests whenever they believe it is “not in the best interest of the child” or question a parent’s “competency” or “capacity” to teach.” Do not take away freedom of education.

Best,  
Donna Belden  
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Sent from my iPhone