

**From:** [Christopher Kane](#)  
**To:** [SLegislation](#)  
**Subject:** S2787  
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To the Senate Education Committee:

My name is Chris Kane, and I am the art teacher at JMW Arts High School in Pawtucket. I urge you to adopt S2787 because the current unchecked expansion of charter schools is creating more harm than benefit to local communities. A good free education is one of the greatest achievements of this nation. Having niche choices offered by charters that complement the offerings of the regular public schools is fine but what is happening on the ground is a selective bleeding off of students. When charters use "school choice" to offer options for a limited number of families to escape "failing" public schools, they are manipulating a closely held American value of freedom of choice to create a tier that anyone can apply to but that not everyone will get access to. This creates a self fulfilling prophecy of failing public schools as talent leaves the public schools, depressing test scores, the imperfect metric by which we are evaluated. A pause is necessary to evaluate and rebalance regular publics and charters to make sure communities aren't being harmed.

Best,

Chris

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Chris Kane  
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