

May 11, 2026

Dear Members of the Senate Committee:

I strongly oppose S2787 and urge you to reject all legislation that would limit public school opportunities for Rhode Island families.

This bill would freeze charter school growth, reduce the statewide cap, and reverse approvals that schools already earned through Rhode Island's established review process.

This is wrong.

Notably, this proposal is wildly out of step with Rhode Island voters and only popular with the unions. Support for charter public schools is broad and bipartisan across demographic groups because families understand that children are not interchangeable and that one model does not work for every student.

There is nothing equitable about restricting opportunity or forcing children into schools determined solely by zip code and residential address. Families with financial means will always have alternatives. The families most harmed by this bill will be those who depend on public school choice as their only realistic option.

At a time when academic outcomes remain deeply concerning, Rhode Island should be expanding access to successful schools, not limiting it.

I respectfully urge you to vote NO on S2787 and any other bill that would limit charter schools in our state.

Sincerely,

Erika Sanzi  
Cumberland