

From: [Kate Mendillo](#)
To: [SLegislation](#)
Subject: please support S2787
Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 8:46:57 PM

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To the Senate Education Committee:

My name is Kate Mendillo and I am a second-grade teacher in the Providence Public School District. I live in Providence.

I support S2787 because Rhode Island cannot continue expanding a fragmented parallel school system while neighborhood public schools face staffing shortages, rising student needs, and growing fiscal pressure.

Public schools serve every student who walks through the door, including students with the highest academic, behavioral, and special education needs. Continued charter expansion places disproportionate financial strain on urban districts, such as Providence, already serving high-need student populations.

This legislation establishes a responsible, temporary pause that allows Rhode Island to evaluate long-term fiscal impacts, educational outcomes, and equity concerns before authorizing further expansion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kate Mendillo