

**From:** [Kellyn Goncalves](#)  
**To:** [SLegislation](#)  
**Subject:** Charter Schools  
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To the Senate Education Committee:

My name is Kellyn Goncalves, and I am an early childhood special educator from Pawtucket.

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 already serving high-need student populations.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Kellyn Goncalves  
Early Childhood Special Educator  
Fallon Memorial Elementary School