

**Subject: Oppose Senate Bill 2787 – Protect Educational Opportunity for Rhode Island Families**

**TO: SLegislation@rilegislature.gov**

Rebecca Weinberg Jones  
7 Halsey St.  
Providence, RI 02906  
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Dear Chair Gallo and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

My name is Rebecca Weinberg Jones, and I am a concerned citizen from the east side of Providence, RI. I am writing to respectfully urge you to oppose Senate Bill 2787.

While this bill has been described as a temporary “moratorium,” it would effectively block the creation of new charter public schools in Rhode Island and limit future educational opportunities for families across our state. Most concerning, the legislation is written retroactively, impacting schools already moving through the approval process, including De La Comunidad Bilingual School and the Greene School expansion.

Families deserve access to high-quality public school options that meet the diverse needs of students. Rhode Island’s public education system should be focused on expanding opportunity, not restricting it. For many families, charter public schools provide specialized programs, innovative models, language immersion opportunities, career and technical pathways, and learning environments where their children can thrive.

Growing up, my family had the resources to make the choice to move out of Boston to a nearby suburb- my parents made this decision exclusively for access to quality public schools. In this way, I am a product of public school choice. Many families in our state- especially economically disadvantaged families whose children are most likely to attend a low-performing school- do not have the flexibility or resources to move in search of better schools. It is our obligation to give them the best possible options available and the right to choose the best fit for their child.

I also believe decisions about the future of public education should be informed by collaboration, transparency, and long-term planning, not broad restrictions that close doors for students and communities. Rhode Island should continue strengthening accountability for all public schools while preserving opportunities for innovation and growth.

**Please oppose Senate Bill 2787 and support a public education system that values opportunity, access, and family voice.**

Sincerely,

Rebecca Weinberg Jones  
Founder/Principal, Step Back Advising, LLC