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RAISED SENATE BILL #1096

AN ACT CONCERNING CHARTER SCHOOLS

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Senator Slossberg, Representative Fleischmann and members of the Education Committee,

I am writing to urge your removal of the provisions of Raised S.B.1096 which would prevent approval of any new public charter schools in CT for two years.

Public school choice is an important part of CT's education landscape and charter schools are an integral component of that choice. The large waiting list for charter school placements is testament to the public's (and their children's) desire to take advantage of the benefits of longer days, longer years, and thematic curricula.

Charter schools have also provided a nurturing environment for over-aged, under-credited students (including those for whom English may or may not be a second language) to reconnect with mainstream academics at a customized pace to ensure success in both post secondary education, but also as productive adults.

CT cannot wait for two years to approve new opportunities for greater learning. Don't put hope on "Pause" for two years. Let the planning, development and approval of charter schools continue.

Respectfully,



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