

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell  
Chair, Assembly Committee on Education  
1020 N Street, Room 159  
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 2, 2019

RE: **AB 1506 as amended April 1, 2019 (McCarty)**  
Position: **Oppose**

Dear Assemblymember O'Donnell:

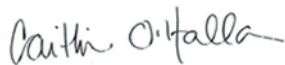
On behalf of the Charter Schools Development Center (CSDC) and our hundreds of charter school members, I write in opposition to AB 1506 (McCarty).

As recently amended, AB 1506 prohibits the further growth of charter schools indefinitely despite existing intent language in the Education Code which states "...that the establishment of charter schools should be encouraged."

The goal of this measure is unclear. Certainly, this measure doesn't meet the intent of current law, and it doesn't allow for the expansion of high-quality public education. So, if the unspoken goal of this measure is to address the issue of budget shortfalls in traditional urban districts it may be worth reviewing enrollment and fiscal data from Ed-Data, a partnership of the California Department of Education, EdSource and Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team, which shows that enrollment in Sacramento City Unified has declined only slightly in the last five years. However, per-pupil revenues have increased 29% over the same five-year period. This and other data indicate that there may be other issues at play in the budget woes of Sacramento City Unified.

This bill is contrary to the intent of current law and for this and other reasons, we oppose this measure.

Yours truly,



Caitlin O'Halloran  
School Governance and Policy Specialist

c.c. Assemblymember McCarty, committee and caucus consultants