

Re: Charter School Expansion
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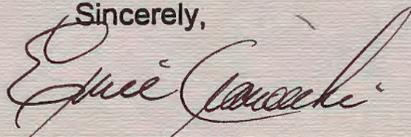
this inequity on the regular schools of these districts? Is legislation needed to correct it?

- ◆ Grade level costs vary widely in unified school districts. The revenue limit for these districts is a composite of the elementary and high school district revenue limits. Yet current law seems to require that the same amount of funding be provided to elementary, middle, and high school charter schools in unified school districts. This causes a great deal of strife between charter advocates and school district administrators.
- ◆ When petitions for statewide initiative propositions are circulated, the **entire text** of the proposal must be attached. Yet, teachers are being asked to sign charter petitions which are either incomplete, or which change significantly before they are presented to the school board. Should this be remedied through legislation?

These are but a few of the issues which should be included in a comprehensive evaluation of what was described as a "pilot" when it was presented to the Legislature in 1992.

The charter school concept is new and untested. We cannot imagine why the legislature would rush to expand it without some evidence of its success. Therefore, we urge you to refrain from agreeing to any bill which expands the number of charter schools this year. Instead, we suggest that a comprehensive evaluation be developed and implemented, the results of which should be used to determine the future of charter schools, as required by state law.

Sincerely,



Ernie Ciarrocchi
Legislative Advocate

EFCM