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## House Committee on Education

Rhode Island General Assembly  
State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

April 10th, 2025

Dear Chairperson McNamara and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Miosoty Gonzalez Caines, and I am a proud alumna of Paul Cuffee School and a lifelong resident of Providence. I write today to express my strong opposition to House Bill 6034, which seeks to ban the approval of new network charter schools and prevent the expansion of existing ones in Rhode Island.

I am a product of Rhode Island's charter public school system. Because of schools like Paul Cuffee, I was able to access a high-quality education from a young age—an opportunity that built the foundation for my future. I went on to graduate from university and pursue opportunities that once felt out of reach for people from my community. Today, I serve as the Executive Support & Data Manager at Stop the Wait RI, where I easily helped over a hundred families navigate the public education system, apply to charter schools and apply private schools. These families want what every parent wants: the best education for their children. Their ability to access quality schools should not be limited by geography or income.

H 6034 threatens to take away those options. It would cap growth in a sector that has already proven its ability to support students—especially those from underserved communities. I know firsthand the difference these schools can make. While I thrived thanks to a charter school education, many of my peers in the same neighborhood did not have that chance. They attended traditional district schools that lacked the structure to help them succeed.

Network charter schools have become a vital part of Rhode Island's public education ecosystem. Blocking their growth would limit innovation and close off life-changing opportunities for students who need them most. I urge you to reject H 6034 and stand with the families who depend on choice, equity, and high-quality public education.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Miosoty Gonzalez Caines