Testimony in Opposition of 2025 – HB6034

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House Committee on Education

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

Dear Chairperson McNamara and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Natasha Cabreja, and I am a [parent] in Providence. I write to express my strong opposition to House Bill 6034, which would limit the future of network charter schools in Rhode Island by banning the approval of new network charter schools and blocking the expansion of existing ones.

I was a waitlist family and I know how it feels to be kept waiting when your child is struggling. I have seen a significant improvement in my daughter's academic progress, especially since she has an IEP while attending her current charter school, PVD Prep. She receives more attention and support compared to her past district school. We need more children to have the opportunity to be better prepared for college. Our children need access to strong public schools.

I urge you to reject H 6034 and instead work toward policies that strengthen accountability and quality without limiting access and opportunity.

Please stand with Rhode Island families and students who depend on strong public school options. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Natasha Cabreja