

Testimony in Opposition of 2025 – HB6034

Yudy Batista
137 Wendell St
Providence RI, 02909
401 301 3461
batistayudy551@gmail.com
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Dear Chairperson McNamara and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Yudy Batista, 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 support the opening of charter schools because I was looking for schools with after school or summer programs or specialized pathways that public schools do not provide to help my child get ahead and get ready for college with advancement opportunities. I would go to my sons' former school looking for support from the teachers and administration and they would not help in any way. My son has IEP and struggles in class and needs extra individual attention. These public school classes have too many kids and it makes it difficult for the teacher to get to every child and help each and everyone of them in the way they need. The children are falling behind in their education and so I strongly support the call for more charter 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,

Yudy Batista