

Submitter: Melissa Stark
On Behalf Of: City View Charter School
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

I am a parent and board member at City View Charter School (CVCS) located in Hillsboro. City View is the only charter school option in the Hillsboro School District (HSD). CVCS has been providing students in Washington County access to a high-quality public-school education for almost 20 years. I am writing today in opposition of Senate Bill 767.

If this bill passes, as it is currently written, it will prevent City View from serving a population of over 300 students in a new permanent facility. City View has been working to locate a permanent home within HSD boundaries for well over a decade. Finding a location within the HSD boundaries that meet all the unique zoning requirements needed for a K-8 school has proven impossible. We have finally located a building to house our school community within Hillsboro City Limits. However, this building is located half a mile outside of the HSD boundary lines. If SB 767 passes as it is currently written it will force our well-established school and any other charter schools in similar situations to close our doors.

I urge the committee to consider amendments to this bill that allow more flexibility for well-established public charter schools to continue to serve students. Perhaps adding an amendment to allow schools to function within a specified number of miles outside the sponsoring school district boundary line. If this bill is passes as it is currently written, the repercussions to the CVCS community and other schools in similar situations will be profound. I implore the members of the Education Committee to oppose and/or amend this bill. SB 767 will only create more barriers and limit student access to free public education options which they are all entitled to.