

Submitter: Orion Jarrell
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

Hello and thank you for taking my testimony. I am an accountant working for a local government with a background in governmental auditing. I spent several years auditing charter schools specifically. One year I traveled all over the state and visited 22 charter schools. I've audited the revenue streams of school districts and charter schools. I've witnessed charter schools succeed wildly and fail to continue to exist. Schools rely on ADM state funding formula money and property taxes to provide communities service.

Charter schools get no property tax money and in many cases 80% of ADM funding. My son is currently attending a very successful charter school and I am dismayed at the pay rate for the teachers and the lack of facilities. Bringing the ADM pass through from 80% to 95% is an incredible start to addressing school funding disparity. In many cases it would add additional staff to schools where one additional person can meet the needs of the most challenged students. The extra funding will help small sometimes insular communities meet the needs of a wider (more diverse) group. If ever there were a place where a small change can make a vast difference this is it.

Please consider helping charter schools, communities, and challenged students. Please move this bill forward.

Orion Jarrell