

Chiefs^{FOR} CHANGE

June 24, 2011

Representative John Kline
Chairman
Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Duncan Hunter
Chairman, Subcommittee on Early
Childhood, Elementary and Secondary
Education, Education and the
Workforce Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kline and Subcommittee Chairman Hunter:

On behalf of more than 11 million students in our states, the Chiefs for Change commends you for your leadership in promoting high quality public charter school options for students and their families. We strongly support the approach of empowering states to tailor grant programs in a way that best meets our unique state and local needs.

The introduction of H.R. 2218, the Empowering Parents through Quality Charter Schools Act, modernizes the current charter school program and provides incentives and critical support to help high-achieving charter schools grow, replicate, and expand to meet the rising demands of students across the country. We appreciate the effort made to streamline the programs as well as the emphasis placed on replicating high performing schools.

We strongly support the provisions in Empowering Parents through Quality Charter Schools Act that provide incentives for states to provide equitable funding to charter schools as well as support new models that use online, hybrid, or blended learning. The legislation also provides needed grants for credit enhancement initiatives that assist charter operators with the cost of acquiring, constructing and renovating facilities.

We strongly support this effort to provide more viable options for students and lend our support for H.R. 2218, the Empowering Parents through Quality Charter Schools Act.

Sincerely,

Chiefs for Change

www.ChiefsforChange.org

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