

Dear Senator Guzzone and members of the Senate Budget & Tax Committee,

Thank you for considering SB0892 School Construction - Public Charter School Facility Fund. Please vote in favor of this legislation – it is critical to close the significant gap that has existed in the law for the past 20 years. Over 24,000 children across the state are receiving a public education that is significantly under-funded compared to their traditional school peers. Public charter schools must deliver a better-than-average education, and they already do it on 20% less than traditional schools. Imagine what more they can do with Maryland taxpayer’s investment if they are offered a chance to participate in fair and equitable facility funding, too.

My children are enrolled in three public schools, two of them are public charter schools. We send our children to different schools so that they can each receive the unique education that best suits their unique learning styles and personalities. It is a privilege that Frederick County provides these options to families and that we “won the lottery” to be able to enroll. However, we ask that this choice be funded the same – in the spirit of the charter school law – so that our children can attend public charter schools that are as well funded as our neighborhood public school.

Please support SB0892.

Sincerely,

Allison Rizzo

Frederick, Maryland