



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 62

Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Education to institute a moratorium on the opening of all new charter schools in New York City until the Department of Education produces a detailed report of how the funding levels for charter schools will grow over the next five years.

By Council Member Levin

Whereas, At the close of the 2012-2013 school year there were 159 charter schools operating in New York City; and

Whereas, The number of charter schools has since increased by 43 percent to 227 schools in the 2017-2018 school year; and

Whereas, Spending on charter schools in the City will now exceed \$1.9 billion in FY18, an increase of 14% over the adopted FY17 budget; and

Whereas, Similarly, spending on charter schools increased 14% from FY15 to FY16 and increased 15% from FY16 to FY17; and

Whereas, There were also changes at the State level that will impact charter school costs in the upcoming school year; and

Whereas, The Adopted State Budget included a \$500 increase in the supplemental basic tuition rate for the upcoming school year, making the total per pupil rate \$14,527; and

Whereas, Additionally, the State approved an increase in the Charter Facilities Rental Aid for privately leased space from 20 percent to 30 percent; and

Whereas, The increase in the supplemental per pupil tuition rate is reflected in the Executive Budget with an adjustment of \$57.3 million in State Aid; and

Whereas, However, the Executive Budget does not reflect an increase in funding to cover facilities payments for charter schools; and

Whereas, Costs associated with charter schools will continue to rise annually due to State mandates, charter school growth and increases in enrollment; and

Whereas, Before continuing the current pace of opening charter schools, the DOE should be required to provide a detailed report of how the funding levels for charter schools will grow over the next five years; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York City Department of Education to institute a moratorium on the opening of all new charter schools in New York City until the Department of Education produces a detailed report of how the funding levels for charter schools will grow over the next five years.

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