



Education Watch

Enhancing Flexibility & Accountability ■ Leaving No Child Behind

U.S. House Education & the Workforce Committee ■ John Boehner, Chairman
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H.R. 1 Set to Expand Charter School Gains Across the Country

Two new research reports from the Department of Education released today show that public school districts are responding in positive ways to the formation of public charter schools.

According to one report, districts are changing their educational services and programs in response to the creation of charter schools in those districts -- suggesting that competition plays a positive role in helping all public schools improve.

A second report shows how accountability can lead to better instruction and stronger schools. It argues that traditional school districts can learn important lessons from the charter school experience about how to hold all public schools accountable for results.

Every disadvantaged student across the nation should be provided an alternative to failing schools and a chance to fulfill their educational potential. President Bush's *No Child Left Behind* bill fulfills that need by providing **immediate public and charter school choice** to the parents of children trapped in failing schools.

Charter schools are playing an increasingly important role in our nation's public education system, and the Bush plan ensures that they can maximize their effectiveness in increasing student achievement.

Message of the Day

The *No Child Left Behind* bill encourages charter school programs and will help charter schools increase student achievement.

- *Charter schools offer parents and students a choice within the public school system.*
- *Charter schools take an innovative approach to serving students and providing them a good education.*
- *H.R. 1 encourages what is best about charter schools -- innovation and commitment to results -- while holding them strictly accountable for improving academic performance.*

DAILY EDUCATION FACTS

- H.R. 1 provides **immediate public and charter school choice** to students trapped in failing schools.
- Advantage Schools, a Boston-based firm that manages 15 inner-city charter schools in seven states and the District of Columbia, found a 9.1 point gain on two national standardized tests, including the Stanford 9; the results were for 9,000 students in 1999-2000.
- Western Michigan University researchers found that charter schools in Pennsylvania posted gains on state assessments of more than 100 points, out-gaining their host school districts by 86 points.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The good news is that charter schools do not just help the students they serve directly, they also prod the entire system to improve." **Education Secretary Rod Paige, June 14, 2001, speech at the Manhattan Institute in New York City**