Pennsylvania’s flawed charter school law must be fixed to ensure that all children are treated fairly and all schools are adequately funded. Current law bases charter school special education tuition rates on the average amount school districts spend providing services for students with disabilities in district schools, not the actual cost for charters to provide services. Lawmakers must apply the special education funding formula to charter schools to match the funding charters receive from school districts with the actual cost of providing services.

LAWMAKERS MUST END THE MORE THAN $100 MILLION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING OVERPAYMENTS TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.

Under current state law, special education funding for charter schools has NO RELATIONSHIP to actual cost of educating and providing services to students with disabilities.
Charters are overpaid for the cost of educating students who require fewer services and underpaid for the cost of students who need more services.

**Actual Cost for Student A:**
- $15,000
- Payment to Charter: $27,000

**Actual Cost for Student B:**
- $35,000
- Payment to Charter: $27,000

How PA law creates a financial incentive for charters to enroll only students who need minimal support.

**District School**
- Twelve special education students enroll. Ten cost $16,000 each to educate and one cost $46,000.
- Avg. District Special Ed. Cost is $20,000
- Local charter school enrolls two students whose education costs $18,000 each and receives $30,000 per student.
- Charter school nets $10,000

**Charter School**
- Six of the students requiring minimal support have moved to the charter school.
- Avg. Special Ed. Cost is now $26,000
- The charter school now educates eight students whose education costs $18,000 each and receives $25,000 per student.
- Charter school nets $80,000

**Lawmakers Must Apply the Special Education Funding Formula to Charter Schools.**

The special education funding formula, which currently only applies to district schools, matches funding for students with disabilities to the actual cost of providing services to these students.

Lawmakers must fix special education funding in PA's broken charter school law. They must end the overpayment of more than $100 million in special education funding to charter schools.

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