

Submitter: S H
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

I am a parent of students at City View Charter School in Hillsboro. City View is the only charter school option in the Hillsboro School District (HSD) and has been providing students in Washington County access to a high-quality public-school education for almost 20 years. I am writing today in opposition of Senate Bill 767. One of the greatest challenges that a charter school faces in finding a facility. These challenges include but are not limited to zoning restrictions, competition from wealthy buyers, and low inventory. City View Charter School is at maximum capacity at its current location and has been searching for a permanent home within HSD boundaries for well over a decade to serve 300+ students currently enrolled with more waitlisted. For reasons listed above, finding a location within the HSD boundaries that meet all the unique zoning requirements needed for a K-8 school has proven impossible. We have finally located a building to house our school community within Hillsboro City Limits. However, this building is located half a mile outside of the HSD boundary lines. If SB 767 passes as it is currently written it will force our well-established school and any other charter schools in similar situations to close our doors. If Senate Bill 767 passes as written, City View Charter School will be without a hope and my children will be separated from the friends they have made and are so dear to them.

I am pleading with the committee to consider amendments to this bill that allow more flexibility for well-established public charter schools, such as City View Charter School, to continue to serve students. Perhaps adding an amendment to allow schools to function within a specified number of miles outside the sponsoring school district boundary line. If this bill is passes as it is currently written, the repercussions to the City View community and other schools in similar situations will be profound. I implore the members of the Education Committee to oppose and/or amend this bill.