## **邕Center for Education Reform**

1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 204 • Washington, DC 20036 Tel 202-822-9000 Fax 202-822-5077

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Dr. Richard Steinke Deputy State Superintendent Maryland State Department of Education Office of Instruction and Academic Acceleration 200 W. Baltimore Street Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Dr. Steinke:

Thank you for calling to try to understand better our concerns about the draft charter school policy.

I am concerned that our repeated input at your meetings was not, it appears, heard as official input. Because all of the factors that make for effective school policy are already in our research and provided to your Department, the legislature and the Governor over the course of the charter deliberations, naturally we would have expected our comments to simply emphasize this research.

Knowing that you no doubt share our concern that the policy as drafted will discourage any charter applicant and make charter schools unduly regulated by school boards, we'd encourage you to amend the process and if you need additional review or comments by our staff, we would be happy to provide it.

Best Regards,

Jeanne Allen President





