



## National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

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The Honorable Jared Polis  
501 Cannon House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Polis:

On behalf of more than 5,000 public charter schools educating over 1.6 million children across the country, the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools thanks you for your leadership in support of promoting the growth of high-quality public charter school options. Throughout the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress, your efforts on behalf of public charter schools, educational improvement, and common sense education reform solutions have been tireless. H.R. 5989, the Green Credit Enhancement Program Act, embodies those efforts. By reauthorizing a program aimed at addressing one of the greatest impediments to public charter school growth, access to adequate facility space, H.R. 5989 takes a critically-important step forward by incentivizing facility development in-line with green building practices.

The Credit Enhancement Program has been a highly successful and innovative program, on average leveraging \$8 to \$10 for every \$1 in public money appropriated to it. Third party Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) use the funding to enhance the ability of public charter schools to approach and utilize the financial markets. Since the program's authorization in 2001, over 300 schools in 21 states have benefitted and financed improved or new facilities. Total appropriations are less than \$225 million over the lifetime of the program, but CDFI's have been able to leverage approximately \$2 billion in support of charter schools.

Recognizing the valuable role this program has played in helping charter schools, HR 5989 reauthorizes the program with critical changes and also takes an important step by incentivizing building in-line with green building principles. Public charter schools have long been and continue to be at the forefront of developing new education delivery options; it is fitting that public charter schools remain at the forefront of innovation by leading in green school development.

The National Alliance greatly appreciates your commitment to education reform and thanks you again for your leadership in support of improved educational options for America's children. We look forward to working with you to authorize HR 5989.

Sincerely,

Peter Groff  
President and CEO