



# City of Quincy, Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL

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To: All Members of the Education Committee of the Quincy City Council

From: Councillor Noel T. DiBona, Chairman

The Education Committee of the Quincy City Council will meet on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the City Hall Great Hall relative any and all matters pending in the Education Committee including, but not limited to:

2016 - 109 - Resolve - Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools

Copy to- All Councillors

Mayor Thomas P. Koch

Dr. Richard DeCristofaro – QPS Superintendent

Nicole L. Crispo – City Clerk

James Timmins - Solicitor

Christopher Walker – Director of Policy and Information

Media

Quincy Access Television

INTRODUCED BY: **WARD THREE COUNCILLOR – IAN C. CAIN**  
**WARD TWO COUNCILLOR – BRAD L. CROALL**

**CITY OF QUINCY**  
IN COUNCIL

ORDER NO. 2016-109

ORDERED:

April 25, 2016

**Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on  
Commonwealth Charter Schools**

**WHEREAS**, free public schools available to all students regardless of income, ability, need or English language proficiency are foundational to our democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, all of our students deserve high-quality public schools that teach the whole child, providing enrichment and addressing social and emotional needs in addition to core academic subjects; and

**WHEREAS**, local accountability for our public schools is necessary to ensure that schools are responsive to the needs of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Quincy is losing \$382,828 to Commonwealth charter schools and public school districts across the state are losing more than \$408 million this year alone — a loss of funds that is undermining the ability of districts to provide all students with the educational services to which they are entitled; and

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth charter schools are often approved over the objections of a majority of community residents and their elected officials and are not accountable to local elected officials once they are approved; and

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth charter schools often fail to serve the same proportion of special needs students, low-income students and English language learners as the districts from which they receive students and often use high suspension rates to drive out students they don't want to serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth charter school system is creating separate and unequal opportunities for success; and

**WHEREAS**, lifting the cap on charter schools would greatly worsen the problems listed above and lead to a costly and divisive two-track school system,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Quincy City Council opposes lifting the cap on Commonwealth charter schools.