

Nevada Legislature

September 29, 2017

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Patrick Gavin, Executive Director State Public Charter School Authority 1749 North Stewart St. Suite 40 Carson City, Nevada 89706

Dear Mr. Gavin:

The 2017 Legislature approved four new positions to create a new Authorizer Unit of the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) to implement effective application review, contracting, monitoring and renewal processes. Testimony provided by the agency during the 2017 Legislative Session indicates there was a 120-day backlog in reviewing charter applications; the agency had not performed site visits required by the SPCSA's performance framework since FY 2013; the SPCSA was 18 months overdue in revising its academic and organizational framework, had a 60-day backlog in providing written feedback to applicants that were notified of an intent to recommend denial of an application, and was 39 months overdue in performing its compliance checklists that would ensure consistent enforcement of applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

It is the intent of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means that the State Public Charter School Authority submit semiannual reports to the Interim Finance Committee on its progress in 1) eliminating the backlog in reviewing charter applications; 2) conducting required site visits; 3) revising the academic and organizational framework; 4) eliminating the backlog in written correspondence to applicants recommended for denial; and 5) completing reviews to ensure consistent enforcement of applicable laws, regulations and policies. The first semiannual report covering the period from July 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017, should be submitted no later than February 1, 2018, and all subsequent reports should be submitted within 30 days of the close of each semiannual period.

Sincerely,

Joyce Woodhouse, Chair Senate Committee on Finance

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Maggie Carlton, Chair

Assembly Committee on Ways and Means

cc: Mike Willden, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

Jim Wells, Director, Director, Governor's Finance Office

Jason Guinasso, Chair, State Public Charter School Authority Board