

**FOOTNOTE 16
ATTACHMENT**

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1 with the governor's recommended budget and some were not.
2 And additionally we also attempted to address some of
3 those issues in statute as well. And some of those I
4 believe are moving through and others are not.

5 Q The next one involves you personally. It's
6 388A.196, subsection 4. It says:

7 "The executive director of the SPCSA shall ensure
8 that the autonomy provided to charter schools in this
9 state pursuant to state law and regulations is preserved."

10 Can you explain how you personally fulfill that
11 duty?

12 A We -- I endeavor as much as possible to stay out
13 of day-to-day operations of schools. And we have very,
14 very limited interaction with schools on a day-to-day
15 basis.

16 We do not select school leaders. We do not
17 select teachers. We do not evaluate the implementation of
18 instruction.

19 We do not -- we don't interfere with the
20 day-to-day operations of schools. What we do is that we
21 evaluate the outcomes versus the inputs. At the end of
22 the day the governing bodies and school leaders are the
23 individuals that have the autonomy to make the decisions
24 about what is best for their students. We do not have

1 that authority.

2 Q How important do you view the concept of autonomy
3 to charter schools?

4 A Without autonomy, a charter school is just a
5 district school.

6 Q Is it your interpretation as executive director
7 that this section obligates you to tell schools how to
8 correct their deficiencies?

9 A I would actually say that this section forbids me
10 to tell schools how to correct their deficiencies. I'm
11 not supposed to be directing people's operations.

12 Q One other question: Do you have the power to
13 approve deficiencies as an executive director -- to
14 approve a deficiency cure? Apologies.

15 A I do not.

16 Q If a school were to propose a deficiency cure
17 that you deemed satisfactory, what would happen in that
18 scenario?

19 A I would need to make a recommendation to the
20 board of the Authority, and they would ultimately make the
21 determination as to whether that cure was satisfactory.

22 Q So you could propose a cure, but it still may not
23 be acceptable to the Authority?

24 A That is correct.