

Senate Bill 089
Concerning the State Charter School Institute
Sponsors: Rep. Karen Middleton and Senator Keith King

Please support Senate Bill 09-089. It was worked on significantly in the Senate and, as amended, is supported by a wide range of stakeholders. This bill does three things:

A. Creates the Institute Charter School Capitol Construction Assistance Fund

- Provides 1% funding for all CSI Schools
- This will assist CSI Schools with capitol construction needs
- This also provides matching funds assistance to help CSI schools with BEST and Colorado Educational Cultural Facilities Authority (CECFA) qualifications
- Offers grants and interest free loans to institute charter schools through an awards program.

B. Creates a State Intercept Program

- Colorado Department of Education will send CSI per pupil dollars to the State Treasurer and the State Treasurer will make bond payments on behalf of the CSI schools.
- This will assist the institute charter school with favorable bond ratings.

C. Exemption from the State Procurement Code

- This would allow CSI to establish and streamline their own procurement of materials for institute charter schools.
- Offers more flexibility in purchasing services and items.
- Example: CSI uses Alpine as do most school districts, to do data disaggregation on CSAP and NWEA but we are limited to annual contracts. These contracts must go to bid annually. CSI needs more capacity to do multiple year contracts with a vendor that can supply and maintain the data that is most usable for our students. The procurement rules make this difficult to accomplish; moreover, the lead time on contracting makes the process cumbersome.

I appreciate your consideration.

