

**RESOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN MODEL SCHOOLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ADDRESSING A CLEAR & PRESENT DANGER TO CALIFORNIA’S PUBLIC-SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE CHILDREN IT SERVES - OPPOSITION TO AB 1505**

**WHEREAS, a free and public education system is a fundamental right in California, essential to the maintenance and actualization of a healthy and prosperous democratic society; and**

**WHEREAS, California’s public charter schools are an integral and vital component of the state’s entire public-school system, serving approximately 650,000 students; and**

**WHEREAS, the existence of public charter schools is not a partisan issue, but rather a common and foundational interest to support every student in California; and**

**WHEREAS, the assault on California’s public charter schools continues to be absent of a “kids first” agenda and driven more by political concerns; and**

**WHEREAS, the assault on California’s public charter schools continues to ignore the reality that the children who attend traditional public schools, as well as those enrolled in public charter schools, are ALL PUBLIC-SCHOOL STUDENTS; and**

**WHEREAS, advocates and supporters of AB 1505 accuse Oakland public charter schools in particular of “cherry picking” the academically more prepared student is rebutted by the report, released by** [**Oakland Achieves Partnership**](https://tracking.cirrusinsight.com/a672d3d8-0c00-454a-9d37-9871fb800958/oaklandachieves-org) **and** [**Education Resource Strategies**](https://tracking.cirrusinsight.com/a672d3d8-0c00-454a-9d37-9871fb800958/erstrategies-org)**, as the data underscores the fact that public charter schools and district-run schools enroll similar levels of low-income students and those learning English – with public charter schools enrolling slightly more of each type of student; and**

**WHEREAS, the CREDO Urban Charter Schools Report (2015) and the CREDO Charter School Performance Report (2014) show that public charter schools are successful in improving educational outcomes for all students in California, including providing greater learning gains for students identified as low-income, English Learners, and/or needing special education support, and that African-American and Latino students attending public charter schools outperform their district peers on state assessments; and**

**WHEREAS, despite the**[**mega-majority**](https://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-sac-skelton-democrats-legislature-supermajority-20181203-story.html)**of Democrats – who now occupy more than 75 percent of the seats in both chambers of California’s state legislature – the fact most of the Democrats supporting AB 1505 have never visited public charter schools located in their respective districts is most disappointing; and**

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that American Indian Model Schools, opposes AB 1505, and urges the California Assembly and Senate legislative advocates and supporters of AB 1505 to visit at least 5 public charter schools located in their respective districts BEFORE voting on AB 1505; and**

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that California Assembly and Senate legislative advocates of AB 1505 talk to parents, teachers, students and administrators in at least 5 public charter schools located in their respective districts BEFORE voting on AB 1505; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of American Indian Model Schools (AIMS) opposes AB 1505 due to the critical threat that it poses to California’s public charter schools and the students we serve; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be delivered to the authors of AB 1505, Assembly and Senate Education Committees, members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, as well as the Senator and Assembly members serving the citizens of Oakland, California.**

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of August, 2019**