



**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
COMPASS CHARTER SCHOOLS**

Board Resolution 2018-07

Opposition to AB 1505, AB 1506, AB 1507 and AB 1508

The Board of Directors (“Board”) of Compass Charter Schools (“Compass”), a tax exempt, California nonprofit public benefit corporation operating public charter schools, does hereby adopt the following resolution:

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 scholars; and

WHEREAS, the existence of charter schools is not a partisan issue, but rather a common and foundational interest to support every scholar in California; 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 scholars in California, including providing greater learning gains for scholars identified as low-income, English Learners, and/or needing special education support; and

WHEREAS, under current law, charter schools are held to the highest levels of accountability for results as they may not be renewed unless they demonstrate scholar academic achievement and legal compliance; and

WHEREAS, all scholars, including those in traditional public schools and those in public charter schools, benefit from the improvements to the public school system that come from increased competition, innovative curriculum development, and additional choices; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bills 1505, 1506, 1507 and 1508 have the purported goal of improving authorizing practices but are in fact designed to drastically reduce the number of charter schools in the state; and

WHEREAS, AB 1505 would, among many other things, remove most of the very few due process protections available charter schools by greatly limiting their ability to appeal decisions of local districts; and

WHEREAS, AB 1506 is a spot bill but appears to be intended to place an artificial cap on charter schools to prevent scholars from having access to a high-quality education and may prevent schools that have already been approved from opening; and

WHEREAS, AB 1507 would prohibit charter schools from locating a single site outside their authorizing district boundaries, even when there is no site within the sponsoring school district or schools are destroyed in a natural disaster, thus forcing charter schools to close or ask for shared space on school district sites; and

WHEREAS, AB 1508 would permit school districts to consider, in determining whether they grant a new charter petition, the financial, academic and facilities impacts the charter school would have on the school district, thus enabling school districts to deny every petition submitted to them, even if data shows that the school district is failing its scholars and the charter school's academic program could better serve some district scholars; and

WHEREAS, closure of significant numbers of charter schools that would result from these bills would cause substantial disruption to the educational programs of special needs scholars by forcing them to have changes of placement and different service providers and deny parents their first choice of school to serve their child; and

WHEREAS, the long-term economic and social costs of not providing a high-quality education to all scholars, including the many scholars of color, low-income students and English Learner scholars served by public charter schools, is morally unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, the Compass Charter Schools Board of Directors opposes AB 1505, AB 1506, AB 1507, and AB 1508 due to the critical threat they pose to our charter schools and the scholars we serve.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby adopts the foregoing resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent & CEO hereby is authorized to certify this resolution.

\* \* \*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Board of Directors has adopted the above resolution at a regular Board meeting this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
J.J. Lewis, Superintendent & CEO