



Dear Jefferson Academy & Summit Academy communities,

I don't do this very often, in fact, the last time we had a "call to action" email was when the JA/Summit community swung the vote to approve the Jeffco Bond issue which funded the build of the Aux Gym at the secondary.

Today's "call to action" is quite different and significantly more perilous for charter schools. Earlier this week 3 legislators introduced a bill that could have devastating impacts on charter schools, including Jefferson Academy & Summit Academy.

The following are a few quotes from the Colorado General Assembly publication regarding this bill

The bill requires a charter school application or renewal to include

- *Its annual minimum pupil enrollment requirement. Failure to satisfy this requirement is grounds for revocation or nonrenewal of the charter contract.*

The bill repeals the second remand to the state board, so that the local board's final decision ends the appeal process. (Currently, the State Board of Education has the final decision in matters where the charter school and authorizing district disagree.)

The bill creates a process for community members to appeal a local board's decision to approve a charter application.

The bill allows a local board to revoke or not renew a district charter school charter because of the school district's declining pupil enrollment or the district charter school's declining enrollment.

What this last item means is that a declining enrollment district, like Jeffco, could revoke any or all Charter Contracts, closing any charter school in the district regardless of the individual school's enrollment or performance. Please know that I don't believe current leadership in Jeffco would do this, but I do believe there are districts that would use this clause to shut down charter schools.

We are asking that you become informed and that you reach out to your legislator letting them know how you feel about this proposed bill. The following links are provided to make this easier to research:

- [Colorado General Assembly HB24-1363 Bill Summary](#)



- [News article about HB24-1363](#)
- [Bulletin from the Colorado League of Charter Schooler School about HB24-1363](#) (This includes a link where you can write to members of the committee)
- [HB24-136 Complete Text](#)

The Colorado League of Charter Schools has a program that helps charter school families stay informed about charter school matters. Visit the [Act Network](#) webpage for more information and the opportunity to sign up for important notices.

Our first Core Value states, “*We stand confident and unwavering in our mission and vision.*” Our community has made a difference in the past. You have an opportunity to voice your opinion while the bill is still in committee.

Warmest Regards.

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[JA Elementary](#) | [JA Secondary](#) | [Summit Academy](#) | [Summit South](#)