



Survey source: <https://charteraction.org/>



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Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives

Arizona District 1 | Libertarian

2026 Congressional Candidate Survey

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Candidate Survey Responses

1. Would you support increasing the Charter Schools Program (CSP) funding level?

The Charter Schools Program (CSP) is the nation's only source of dedicated federal funding to support the creation, expansion, and replication of public charter schools. At its fiscal year (FY) 2023 funding level of \$440 million, the CSP amounts to less than 1% of federal spending on K-12 education but has a significant impact on the communities that charter schools serve.

Because charter schools cannot access per-pupil funding until students enroll, the CSP provides essential short-term funding to cover school start-up costs. Nearly one-half of charter schools operating today were made possible by CSP funding.

[X] OTHER — Yes, with comments.

YES. I support increasing CSP funding within federal spending on K-12 education at the proposed amount, but I'd like to see it increased even further, provided it is offset by cutting the trillion-dollar funding for war and redirecting it to charter schools, then adjusting the CSP funding level upward to account for inflation caused by those wars. The federal government blew \$8 trillion over 20 years on foreign wars—enough to build 12,000 hospitals, 56,000 schools, 80,000 bridges, and 400,000 miles of roads! George Washington said: "20 years of peace will transform America and build a strong economy." PEACE KEEPS THE WEALTH OF OUR NATION AT HOME! If our government stopped funding foreign wars and put tax dollars to work for Americans, we would have prosperity here at home. Audit and defund the Pentagon, the unconstitutional war machine, and return that stolen wealth to our classrooms.

2. Would you support the Equitable Access to School Facilities Act?

Access to affordable buildings is one of the most persistent challenges facing charter schools. Not only does this issue limit the growth of high-performing charter schools, but it forces existing programs to operate in spaces not designed for learning. The Equitable Access to School Facilities Act offers a range of solutions. This bill expands access to federal facilities funds available to states through the federal Charter Schools Program, creates new incentives to offer better financing tools at the state level, and creates flexibility around how existing funds can be used to improve school buildings. This bill requires no new funding.

☒ YES

3. Would you support the Fostering Learning and Excellence in Charter Schools Act (the FLEX Act)?

The federal Charter Schools Program, despite being a very small proportion of federal education spending, has become one of the most restrictive and complex grant programs administered by the Department of Education. The Fostering Learning and Excellence in Charter Schools Act (the FLEX Act) aims to eliminate many bureaucratic barriers to charter school success. For example, this bill would allow the Department of Education to move funds between subprograms and competitions to be more responsive to demand from the field. By increasing operating flexibility and creating efficiencies across the program, this bill is designed to ensure charter school leaders have the policy environment they need to do what they do best: foster innovation and improve student outcomes. This bill requires no new funding.

☒ YES

4. Would you support the Empower Charter School Educators to Lead Act?

Starting a new charter school can be a lengthy, labor-intensive process, often requiring months, if not years, of research, development, and engagement. Educators, who are often best positioned to start high-quality schools, can lack the time and resources needed to fully engage in the charter school application process. The Empower Charter School Educators to Lead Act allows states to use federal Charter Schools Program funds to support experienced educators through the early stages of school development. The bill's aim is to increase the number of high-quality charter applications and, in turn, high-performing charter schools. This bill requires no new funding.

☒ YES

5. With students on public charter school waiting lists across 46 states, would you support bills that reduce red tape so high-performing public charter schools can expand more quickly to meet enrollment demand?

☒ YES

6. Which statement best reflects your views on school choice?

☒ I support all public school options, including high-performing public charter school expansion and new charters wherever they want to open, but do not support state funding of educational savings accounts or private school voucher programs.

7. Do you have children? If so, what type of school(s) do or did they attend?

☒ NO

8. What type of school(s) did you personally attend?

☒ OTHER — Elementary school: Catholic school; high school/college: public school.

9. Have you met with a charter school leader or visited a charter school in your district or elsewhere in the state?

☒ NO

10. Why did you decide to run for this position and what do you hope to accomplish?

Kitchen-table issues are economic, but we cannot fix our economy while ignoring the financial toll of endless wars. I support policies that secure clean water, healthy food and strong support for farmers, affordable housing, thriving small businesses, low gas prices, and good schools—in fact, I want more schools, all of which help to create happy, healthy children, families and pets.

I decided to run for Congress to be a voice of peace and sanity. I want all these wars to stop. This is a matter of fiscal sanity, socio-economics, and also deep moral principle. As George Washington said: “20 years of peace will transform America and build a strong economy.” Decades of war are destructive to the economy and also set a tone of aggression into society—into our streets, schools, and homes—and it affects our nation’s most precious commodity: our children. What I hope to accomplish is to bring the truth about how war spending is destroying our economy into open public debate and let voters know there is a logical, viable answer.

11. If you would like to elaborate on any of the answers above, please do so below.

Learning is the key to life. We need more schools and we need more funding. We have the money. I just have a different idea on how to expand that funding. Every child learns differently, and families benefit when they have access to a variety of high-quality educational options. Strong schools, engaged parents, safe communities, and responsible stewardship of public resources all work together to create the conditions for student success.