

SESSION NAME: Charter School Policy Past, Present, and Future

SESSION PIN:

4417

LET YOUR PRESENTERS KNOW YOU'RE HERE, AND EARN POINTS!

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CHARTER SCHOOL POLICY PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE





Since 2012, NACSA has been tracking policy changes specifically focused on authorizer quality and school accountability.



Authorizer Quality

- Who Authorizes
- Authorizer Standards
- Authorizer Evaluations
- Authorizer Sanctions

School Accountability

- Performance Management and Replication
- Reports on School Performance
- Renewal Standards
- Default Closure







Since 2012, 23 states have made improvements to their laws in those categories.

Those states serve more than 1.25M charter school students.







Assessing the Increasing Strength of Charter School Laws

October 26, 2016



Model Law and Rankings Reports

- A New Model Law for Supporting the Growth of High-Quality Public Charter Schools (2009).
- Measuring Up to the Model: A Ranking of State Charter School Laws (2010 to 2016).
- Each state law is analyzed, scored, and ranked against 20 components. Total points possible is 228.



 Between 2010 and 2016, 36 states made policy improvements to better align their laws with the National Alliance's model law.



 Nine states overhauled their laws to more tightly align them with the National Alliance's model law: Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Rhode Island.



 While short of a full overhaul, eight states still made notable changes to better align their laws with the National Alliance's model law: Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.



 The four states that enacted brand-new legislation did so in ways relatively well aligned with the National Alliance's model law: Alabama in 2015, Maine in 2011, Mississippi in 2013, and Washington in 2012 and 2016.



 States made the most progress in lifting caps, with 16 states doing so.



 States also made significant progress in strengthening charter school and authorizer accountability, with 28 states enacting such policies.



- Comprehensive Charter School Monitoring and Data Collection Processes: 17 states.
- Performance-Based Charter School Contracts
 Required: 16 states.



- Transparent Charter School Application,
 Review, and Decision-making Processes: 15 states.
- Educational Service Providers: 15 states.



Authorizer and Overall Program
 Accountability System Required: 14 states.



 Eleven states made significant improvements to their facilities policies for charter schools.



- There have been significant improvements to charter school laws over the past several years.
- Yet, even the #1 state in our rankings report (Indiana) received only 78 percent of the total available points.



 More work needs to be done to ensure that state charter school laws provide the flexibility, funding, and accountability for charter public schools to provide a highquality education to their students.



New Model Law and Rankings Report

- A Model Law for Supporting the Growth of High-Quality Charter Public Schools: Second Edition, October 2016.
- Measuring Up to the Model: A Ranking of State Charter School Laws: Eighth Edition, January 2017.