

THE LAST EIGHT STATES WITHOUT CHARTER LAWS

AND THEN THERE WERE EIGHT...

In 2012, Washington became the 43rd (including DC) state to authorize a charter school law. While the law is average on [paper](#) (lack of independent authorizer, cap on number of schools and enrollment, and some operational restrictions), the real test comes when the first charter school applies and opens in the Evergreen State. Only then will we know if funding truly does follow the child and if charter schools have enough autonomy to create a high-quality education for the children of Washington.

Every year, the remaining charter-less states try to introduce legislation, and we have seen Alabama and Kentucky try and fail to pass legislation that would create a charter school law. Even if one of these bills passes, what is proposed won't be strong and won't produce strong charter schools.

Charter laws need to be enacted in eight remaining states, but they need to be the right type of law - one that holds charter schools accountable to independent authorizers, funds them 100 percent as conventional schools, and gives them the operational freedom to be true innovators in education.

Alabama
Kentucky
Montana
Nebraska
North Dakota
South Dakota
Vermont
West Virginia

