



## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Joint Statement of Support for Governor Hochul’s Proposal of Lifting the Regional Cap on NYC Charter Schools**

(New York, NY) We, Chinese American Citizens Alliance Greater New York Chapter, Asian Wave Alliance, and New York City Residents Alliance support Governor Hocu’s budget proposal to eliminate the regional cap for New York City Charter schools as it will provide families with expanded options, promote higher quality education with healthy education competition, and benefit student learning without introducing new costs to families.

While Governor Hochul’s 2023-24 budget plan would keep a statewide cap of 460 charters in place, it would eliminate a regional cap for New York City, allowing an increase of 100 new charter schools in the Big Apple. However, several members of the NY Senate Education Committee – including NYC Senators John Liu,

Robert Jackson, and Jessica Ramos – have opposed this proposal by calling it a “non-starter.”

The lawmakers' rebuke fails to consider several salient points critical to the needs of Asian-American families. For the past three years, we have witnessed numerous attempts at removing Gifted and Talented (G&T) and screened academic programs from our public schools. Although G&T and other programs were eventually preserved, a lottery-style admissions has been implemented, leaving NYC Asian families who value merit-based options with chance. “There has been a great deal of anxiety around school applications. Asian families who are trying to make ends meet do not have the resources or know how to explore other school options where academic rigor is a high priority.”, said Phil Wong, President of CACAGNY.

Our support for charter schools stems from their impressive academic results – many charter schools consistently outperform comparable public schools in math and ELA state tests, and are able to accomplish it with less funding per student. In 2022, six out of the twenty NY state schools which received the National Blue Ribbon School Award were from New York City, and all six of these schools are charter schools located in the Bronx. “It is no wonder that Asian parents have begun including charters as an option for their children. The number of Asian students attending charter schools has jumped 54% in the past five years.”, said Yiatin Chu of Asian Wave Alliance.

We strongly urge lawmakers who oppose Gov. Hochul’s Proposal to Lift the Charter School Cap for NYC to listen to their constituents — particularly parents — when it comes to the lack of alternative quality, academically rigorous options for education and wanting choice in this matter. Donghui Zang of NYCRA

remarked, “Gov. Hochul’s proposal is a big step in reversing the former Mayor’s destructive policies against academically rigorous curriculum and education opportunities in the name of “equity” and “diversity” and every family should be afforded a choice.”

<b>NYC Charter Schools</b>						
<b>&gt;15% Asian, K-8</b>						
<b>School</b>	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>% Asian</b>	<b># Asian</b>	<b>ELA*</b>	<b>Math*</b>	<b>Geo District</b>
Citywide	NA	17%	NA	49%	38%	NA
Bronx Charter School for Excellence	830	40%	336	72%	69%	D11
Success Academy Charter School - Union Square	971	34%	330	90%	91%	D2
Academy of the City Charter School	717	26%	185	57%	39%	D30
Success Academy Charter School - Bensonhurst - New	591	25%	146	89%	98%	D21
Bronx Charter School for Excellence II	439	23%	101	71%	74%	D11
Success Academy Charter School - South Jamaica	476	21%	99	68%	90%	D27
Our World Neighborhood Charter School	724	19%	134	60%	49%	D30
Success Academy Charter School - Hell's Kitchen	395	18%	73	85%	95%	D2
Central Queens Academy Charter School	497	18%	88	67%	57%	D24
Renaissance Charter School	668	17%	115	64%	38%	D30
Success Academy Charter School - Hudson Yards	357	17%	61	81%	94%	D2
* % of Students Grade Proficient; 2022 State Test Scores 3 and 4						

Note: Table consists of data from the NYC DOE Demographic Snapshot SY 2017-18 to 2021-22 and NYC DOE School Quality Reports.

<https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/school-quality/information-and-data-overview>



Photo Credit to Success Academy Charter Schools Facebook of Success Academy Bensonhurst

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About Asian Wave Alliance (<https://asianwavealliance.org/>)

Asian Wave Alliance (AWA) is a nonpartisan political club formed to help educate and organize Asian voters. Our focus is on local, state and national issues that affect our daily lives, our rights and freedom, and the future prosperity of our children.

About Chinese American Citizens Alliance Greater New York

(<http://www.cacagny.org/>)

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACAGNY) , was established in 1895 in San Francisco and is the oldest Asian American Advocacy group in the country. Our mission is “To empower Chinese Americans, as citizens of the United States of America, by advocacy for Chinese-American interests based on the principles of fairness and equal opportunity, and guided by the ideals of patriotism, civility, dedication to family and culture, and the highest ethical and moral standards.”

About New York City Residents Alliance

(<https://www.facebook.com/nycresidentsalliance>)

Established in 2018, New York City Residents Alliance (NYCRA) has been the major voices for the past 5 years’ Keep SHSAT and Opposing Community Jail movements. A grassroot organization consisting of mainly NYC public school parents, NYCRA strives to promote public safety, quality education, and true racial equality throughout New York City and State.