



Dear Education Committee,

I ask for your support of SB 235. Charter schools throughout Alaska offer families a choice in public school education. While charter schools differ from one to the other, from curriculum to immersion in different languages, we all share a common issue: facilities. SB 235 offers solutions to our facility issues because it will provide an avenue for eligibility in federal charter school facility grants. Alaska charter schools are currently eliminated from consideration for federal charter school facility grants due to the current language in the law. The new language in SB 235 that removes the caps and allows a per pupil facility allotment would allow Alaska charter schools to compete nationally for the numerous federal charter school grants.

Generally, charter schools are relegated to leasing their facilities. Often times, our charter schools use their Basic Needs funds allocated by the state for use with students to pay for their leased facilities. When charter schools can start participating in federal facility grants, the money intended for the students can go to the students. The new language of SB 235 removes the road blocks and allows the State of Alaska to pursue other avenues of federal funding to provide facilities to charter schools.

Everyone wins with the new language of SB 235. These changes in the charter school law rates high on federal grading rubrics thereby allowing for higher scores for other School District's projects. So, not only will charter schools benefit, but Alaska's local School Districts will have a higher success in seeking federal grants for traditional public schools. The language of SB 235 also creates a funding stream for new charter schools allowing for eligibility for federal start up grants. Currently, new charter schools do not receive any additional funding to open their doors. SB 235 would meet criteria for \$400,000 of federal grant start up money.

On behalf of the members of Partnership for Alaskan Charter Schools, we support SB 235. It's essential for the growth and success of Alaska's charter schools. It's good for Alaska.

Sincerely,

Loretta Nardi  
Partnership for Alaskan Charter Schools (PACS)  
President



Academy Charter School Advisory Board

Palmer, Alaska

A Resolution from Academy Charter School's Advisory Board Supporting new Alaska State Charter School Law ☞ Sec. 14.03.250. Establishment of charter schools to eliminate caps on the number of charter schools allowed and to include language for a per pupil allotment for facility funding.

WHEREAS, the Academy Charter School Advisory Board invites support of changing Alaska State Law and

WHEREAS, removing language from the state law that limits the number of charter schools allowed in the state.

WHEREAS, charter schools give opportunities outside of traditional public schools for innovative programs to be implemented; and

WHEREAS, charter schools gain momentum and interest to meet the needs of the children of the community; and

WHEREAS, removing caps limiting the number of charter schools will allow the state of Alaska to pursue other avenues for federal funding not previously allowed due to limits.

WHEREAS adding per-pupil facility funding for charter schools,

WHEREAS, recognizing charter schools operate using funds allocated for use with students to pay for facilities,

WHEREAS, Charter schools allotted a per pupil facility fund gives economic relief by bringing a great dollar amount to the school allowing for adequate funding for students,

WHEREAS, adding an allotment for per pupil facility funding will allow the state of Alaska to pursue other avenues for federal funding not previously allowed due to lack of language.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Advisory Board of Academy Charter School, supports changing ☞ Sec. 14.03.250. Establishment of charter schools to remove caps on charter schools and adds state mandated per pupil facility funding.

David Dahms, Advisory Board President

Loretta Nardi, Advisory Board Secretary



Thunderbird Early College Charter School, Inc.

A Resolution from Thunderbird Early College Charter School, Inc, APC Directors, supporting new Alaska State Charter School Law ☞ Sec. 14.03.250.

WHEREAS, Thunderbird Early College Charter School, Inc. was organized as a nonprofit entity in 2008, to establish, develop, and oversee a Grade 5-12 public early college charter school in compliance with a five year contract with Matanuska Susitna Borough School District and the State of Alaska, proposing to open for the 2011-2012 School Year;

NOTING THAT, charter schools are nonsectarian public schools of choice that operate with freedom from many of the regulations that apply to traditional public schools. The "charter" establishing each such school is a performance contract detailing the school's mission, program, goals, students served, methods of assessment, and ways to measure success;

FURTHER NOTING, charter schools are accountable to their sponsor, usually a state and local school board, to produce positive academic results and adhere to the charter contract ;

FURTHER NOTING, the basic concept of charter schools is that they exercise increased autonomy in return for this accountability and they are accountable for both academic results and fiscal practices to several groups: the sponsor that grants them, the parents who choose them, and the public that funds them;

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION, that charter schools increase new opportunities for learning and quality education for all students; they are established for a variety of reasons and have many benefits; they create choice for parents and students within the public school system; they provide a system of accountability for results in public education; they encourage innovative teaching practices; they create new professional opportunities for teachers and encourage community and parent involvement in public education;

WHEREAS, Thunderbird Early College Charter School, Inc., APC Directors support the changing of Alaska State Law and removing caps limiting the number of charter schools as it will allow the state of Alaska to pursue other avenues for federal funding not previously allowed due to limits;

NOTING WITH REGRET, that charter schools in our state currently operate using funds allocated for use with students to pay for facilities;

APPROVING, that if Charter schools are allotted a per pupil facility fund it provides economic relief by bringing a great dollar amount to the school allowing for adequate funding for students;

FURTHER APPROVING, that by adding an allotment for per pupil facility funding the state of Alaska will be able to pursue other avenues for federal funding not previously allowed due to lack of language;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Thunderbird Early College Charter School, Inc. APC Directors,

1. Support the changing ☞ Sec. 14.03.250. Establishment of charter schools, by removing language from the state law that limits the number of charter schools allowed in the state and adding language requiring state mandated per pupil facility funding.

*electronic signatures on file*

Anna Wilbur Roys, President

Heather Pelletier, Treasurer

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2010 8:28 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: SB 235, please add to public testimony for Feb. 8th

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Roger & Contessa Gossett [mailto:messa@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 05, 2010 8:33 AM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** Re: SB 235, please add to public testimony for Feb. 8th

Dear Senator Meyer, we am writing you regarding SB 235 that is being considered.

Alaska Charter Schools are currently eliminated from consideration for federal charter school facility grants due to caps on the number of charter schools and no language for per pupil facility funding.

The new language proposed in SB 235 will remove the caps and allow a per pupil facility allotment. With that new language, Alaska charter schools will be able to compete nationally for the numerous federal facility grants that are available to charter schools.

Please consider these proposed changes. This will remove the road bloaks and allow the State of Alaska to pursue other avenues of federal funding.

In addition, this new language will open the door to eligibility in 90/10 splits where the federal government would pay 90 % of the costs for facilities for charter schools.

As parents of a charter school 5th grader, we respectfully request that SB 235 be considered.

Thank you, Roger and Contessa Gossett, Palmer, Alaska

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2010 7:21 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: SB 235

**From:** Kim & Brent Taylor [mailto:taylorkb@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 07, 2010 6:02 PM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** SB 235

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to ask for your support of SB 235. As a parent of two charter school children, I can attest to the need for better facilities. I believe investing in successful educational programs benefits us all.

Sincerely,

Brent Taylor

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2010 7:23 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: Senate Bill 235

-----Original Message-----

**From:** clph28@gci.net [mailto:clph28@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 07, 2010 9:42 PM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 235

Greetings Senator Meyer,

I am writing to you in support of Senate Bill 235 and beneficial charter school legislation. Currently, starting and running a charter school in Alaska is a very challenging task with the limited funding available from school districts and other government agencies. Charter schools need access to state and federal financial support and start up grants, which will be instrumental in the growth and sustenance of healthy charter school options. Charter schools provide a unique educational format and/or curriculum, allowing students and their families a choice in the scope of their education. The roadblocks for charter school education need to be removed. Our public education system should encourage new models to reach the greatest number of students with quality education that meets student needs as well as public demand.

I urge you to pass this Bill and show the state and the country that we all can benefit from charter schools as a part of our public education system. Without the ability to use the money that is out there for this purpose, charter schools now in existence, are not able to operate to their fullest potentials. In addition, it is much more difficult for new charter schools to begin.

Thank you for your careful consideration of the positive impact this Bill can have.  
Sincerely,

Alysia Loughlin-Bushey  
Wasilla, Alaska

Please include this letter in the public testimony packet. Thank you.

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2010 7:25 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: SB 235  
**Attachments:** image001.gif

**From:** Ryan and Erin [mailto:[eleaders@mtaonline.net](mailto:eleaders@mtaonline.net)]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 07, 2010 11:12 PM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** SB 235

Senator Meyer,

I would like to request my name be added to the Public Testimony packet in support of SB 235.

Regards,

*Erin Leaders*  
[eleaders@mtaonline.net](mailto:eleaders@mtaonline.net)

**From:** Nancy Hiney [mailto:hineynancy@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2010 6:38 PM

**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer

**Subject:** Senate Bill 235

Dear Kevin

I apologize for not having researched your position on this bill. I am a teacher who works for Family Partnership and was informed recently about this bill. I believe that the benefits of passing this bill will allow ASD to apply for federal money which will directly benefit those of us who work for homeschooled students. As you may or may not know the face of homeschooled students is vast. It is often the traditional stay at home mom but more often than we would like, it is a child who really likes regular school but because they had a broken leg or the H1N1 virus and missed two months of school can no go to school because they are too far behind and are brought home to catch up for the year. Sometimes bringing these students together for a small class can be a life-saver for them. This is just one example of why being able to access facilities would be helpful for our school.

Thanks.

Nancy Hiney

522-2838



## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2010 12:54 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: In support of SB 235

**From:** Monica G. [mailto:wisdomak@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 04, 2010 12:54 PM  
**To:** Sen. Joe Thomas; Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** In support of SB 235

Dear Sirs:

My name is Monica Gilpin of Wasilla and I am in support of SB235. Charter schools are critical in providing exceptional educational opportunities to the public at large. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Hotmail: Powerful Free email with security by Microsoft. [Get it now.](#)

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** rustyandliz@gci.net on behalf of rustyandliz [rustyandliz@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2010 12:35 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** Expediting SB 235

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I would greatly appreciate your help in expediting SB 235 passage through the committees and on to final approval.

Please put this attached letter in the file as public testimony.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth D. Thatcher*

Dear Senators and Representatives,

February 3, 2010

I am the Father of two charter school students. Charter Schools provide an important parent choice option in public school education! The education my children are receiving is very impressive. After 13 years, the majority of Academy's students still attend class in old, worn out portables. I would greatly appreciate your help in expediting SB 235 passage through the committees and on to final approval. Successful passage of SB 235 will give Alaska charter schools a chance to compete for grants to obtain funding for a permanent facility.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Please put this in the file as public testimony.

Sincerely,

*Russell R. Thatcher*

Russell R. Thatcher  
1950 N. Spruce Dr.  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 2:29 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: SB 235  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg; image002.gif

**From:** Heather R.S. Oberholtzer [mailto:heather@crystalcreeklodge.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 1:33 PM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** SB 235

Hello Senator Meyer,

I am writing to you today to state my support for SB 235. Currently, charter schools in Alaska use their Basic Needs funds allocated by the state for use with students to pay for leased facilities. When charter schools start participating in federal facility grants, the money intended for the students can go to the students.

Federal Facility grants were created for this reason.

Please take my voice into consideration when you vote.  
Thank you.

Heather Oberholtzer  
Palmer, Alaska

Sincerely,

Heather R. S. Oberholtzer  
Guest Relations Manager  
907.357.3153

*Please save my new email address to your Address Book and Spam filter  
[heather@crystalcreeklodge.com](mailto:heather@crystalcreeklodge.com)*



If you are actively reducing your environmental footprint, we are happy to send all invoices, receipts, brochures, and trip information electronically.

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 12:45 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: Please support SB 235

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Lisa Leeper [mailto:lleeper@nomeschools.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 11:33 AM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** Please support SB 235

Dear Senator Meyer,

I am a teacher at Anvil City Science Academy. Our school is over ten years old and is offering a unique program for 5th through 8th grade students. The program is project based learning with an emphasis in math and science. It is proven that we have helped most students increase their scores in all areas on the Standards Based Assessments.

Our school is housed in facility that needs major upgrades. We've been provided spare space, but we have a vision of building our own school to better fit our basic needs. We do not have the funds to build or relocate, but federal assistance could change this.

Please support SB235 so that we may be eligible to access federal grants for charter schools. In addition, having new charter schools throughout the state is good for kids. More options means more kids will succeed in school.

Thank you for considering my request and for your dedicated service, Lisa Leeper Teacher, Anvil City Science Academy



## *Anvil City Science Academy*

*Nome, Alaska*

Senator Meyer,

On behalf of the Anvil City Science Academy's Academic Policy Committee, I would like to express our thanks for your support for SB 57 during the last legislative session. At this time, we would request your support for the passage of SB 235. Currently, charter schools all over Alaska are using a substantial portion of their funding from the student based allocation to pay for the facilities they use, since they are unable to compete for federal grants due to the cap on the number of charter schools that can operate in Alaska. SB 235 would eliminate this restriction, allowing charter schools to compete for the grants, thus getting more dollars into the classroom.

The Charter School Act has allowed parents, community members, and teachers to take the lead in developing unique educational programs and to be involved in the decision making for school policies. The result of which is a flexible education process, which provides for the needs of students and parents alike. Charter schools can create a distinctive school culture in which everyone takes ownership in the program.

Anvil City Science Academy was created twelve years ago by parents, teachers, and community members interested in a family oriented school characterized by high academic standards and a well-rounded curriculum, with an emphasis in science and math. In that time, ACSA has been able to meet the needs of its fifth through eighth grade students who come to the program with a wide variety of backgrounds, learning styles, experiences, and needs.

ACSA is currently housed in a building, which is over forty years old. The building has a roof that leaks and has past issues with Radon. If we chose to remodel, asbestos abatement could be an issue. Passage of SB 235 would allow our APC to pursue federal dollars to help finance the construction of a safe, new, permanent facility, a benefit to the students and families we serve.

In a small community such as Nome, a program such as ACSA is valuable resource to the city by providing an alternative education program. A safe, new, permanent facility would be a guarantee that our dedicated staff and parent volunteers would be able to continue serving the community of Nome for years to come.

Thank you for you time and consideration on this matter,

Todd Hindman, Lead Teacher  
Anvil City Science Academy  
Nome, Alaska

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 9:40 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: support of SB 235

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Greg Miller [mailto:Greg.Miller@matsuk12.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 9:35 AM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** support of SB 235

Senator Meyer,

I wanted to convey my support for SB 235.....an important step in securing charter school facilities for our students. Because Districts do not provide funding or facilities, most of our charter schools must lease. At Twindly Bridge Charter School we lease an old strip mall with nine separate exit doors for our students., not the best environment for teaching our kids. Also, the fact that we lease means we will never have our own building...and that lease money from our budget always goes to a landlord instead of our students' education.

Thanks for your support of this bill.  
Greg Miller  
Palmer, Alaska

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 9:39 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: I support SB 235

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Janigo\_Melissa [mailto:janigo\_melissa@asdk12.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 9:25 AM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** I support SB 235

Dear Senator Meyer,

My name is Melissa Janigo, I live in Anchorage and I am one of the four founders of Winterberry Charter School. I am writing to you to pledge my support of SB 235. Winterberry Charter School is currently in its fifth year. The birth and growth of Winterberry has been a very difficult but worthwhile endeavor, it's success is due to the devotion and hard work of many volunteer parents and teachers. Our biggest challenge has been, and continues to be in finding and funding adequate space to house our school. We are currently outgrowing our space and are having great difficulty in finding an adequate facility that is affordable and does not compromise the integrity of our educational program. I believe SB 235 is a step forward in supporting the success of Charter Schools. Please add my pledge of support to the public testimony.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Janigo  
Founder and Board Chair of  
Winterberry Charter School  
Anchorage, Alaska



## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 3:49 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: SB 235

**From:** Tom Adams [mailto:tomisty@mtaonline.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 2:49 PM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** SB 235

Dear Senator Meyer,

As a registered voter, and parent of two children who have attended a Charter school from k-8<sup>th</sup> grade and one child who will attend a Charter school in two years, I am writing to you asking that you work hard to push through SB235. This is a huge opportunity for Alaska Charter Schools that have proven to be successful an avenue to secure a permanent facility at minimal cost to the state. While my first two children received an excellent educational opportunity, I can only imagine what it could be like if our school no longer had to worry about maintaining a poor facility and focus only on education. I appreciate your support.

Misty Adams

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Lanissa Grogan [lilsu@mtaonline.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 2:49 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** SB235

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am a parent of 3 charter school students. Charter Schools provide an important parent choice option in public school education! After 13 years, the majority of Academy's students still attend class in old, worn out portables. I would greatly appreciate your help in expediting SB 235 passage through the committees and on to final approval. Successful passage of SB 235 will give Alaska charter schools a chance to compete for grants to obtain funding for a permanent facility.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Please put this in the file as public testimony.

Sincerely,

Rob and Lanissa Grogan  
961 E McAdoo Way  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Dawn Robinson [Dawn.Robinson@matsuk12.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 2:16 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am a parent of a charter school student. My daughter Claire has attended Academy Charter school for 3 years now. Charter Schools provide an important parent choice option in public school education! After 13 years, the majority of Academy's students still attend class in old, worn out portables. I would greatly appreciate your help in expediting SB 235 passage through the committees and on to final approval. Successful passage of SB 235 will give Alaska charter schools a chance to compete for grants to obtain funding for a permanent facility. They have done a wonderful job in getting a gym and main building but it sure would be nice for my 2nd grade daughter to be walking in the halls of a real school instead of running from portable to portable in all kinds of weather.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Please put this in the file as public testimony.

Sincerely,

Dawn Robinson  
1100 W. Granville St.  
Palmer, AK 99645  
907-746-3430

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Donna Button [donna@travelservicesinc.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 1:45 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** SB 235

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am a parent of a charter school student, for 12 years. Charter Schools provide an important parent choice option in public school education! After 13 years, the majority of Academy's students still attend class in old, worn out portables. I would greatly appreciate your help in expediting SB 235 passage through the committees and on to final approval. Successful passage of SB 235 will give Alaska charter schools a chance to compete for grants to obtain funding for a permanent facility.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Please put this in the file as public testimony.

Sincerely,

Donna Button

POBox 1892

Palmer, AK 99645

Thank you,  
Donna Button  
Travel Services, Inc.  
PO Box 1147  
WE Moved our office! Please note our new Location!  
1931 N. Hemmer Rd.  
Palmer, AK 99645  
907-745-2148  
800-478-2148  
907-745-6051/FAX  
[www.travelservicesinc.com](http://www.travelservicesinc.com)

Without a travel agent, you are on your own!

**Jomo Stewart**

---

**From:** lorettanardi@gci.net on behalf of Loretta Nardi [lorettanardi@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 1:30 PM  
**To:** Murray Richmond; Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** Support SB 235 Public Testimony

To: Senate Education Committee

Re: SB 235

Note: Please add to the Public Testimony Packet

Dear Senator Meyers and Senator Thomas,

My children attend a k-8 charter school in Palmer. My daughter graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade after attending Academy Charter School since kindergarten. My youngest son just started at Academy in the fall. His class room is the same old temporary portable class room that was my daughter's old temporary portable class room in the fall of 2000. This is the case for all the grades at Academy Charter School. My husband and I drive our children almost 15 miles to school each day where they attend class in old temporary portable class rooms. We do this because we love the education that our children receive.

SB 235 will answer our prayers. SB 235 would enable Alaska charter schools to be eligible for federal charter school facility grants for the first time in 13 years, since Alaska first allowed charter schools. Changing the language of the current Alaska Charter School Law and adopting SB 235 will open doors to a funding stream of federal grants that were previously closed to us.

I urge your support for SB 235 so our state can pursue federal charter school facility grants that will give my kindergartner the chance to attend classes in a real school with inside doors and hallways.

Thank you,

Loretta Nardi  
Palmer, Alaska  
907-373-6032

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Tracy Adams [tadams@mta-telco.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 1:17 PM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** SB 235  
**Attachments:** image002.gif; image001.gif



Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am a parent of a charter school student. Charter Schools provide an important parent choice option in public school education! After 13 years, the majority of Academy's students still attend class in old, worn out portables. I would greatly appreciate your help in expediting SB 235 passage through the committees and on to final approval. Successful passage of SB 235 will give Alaska charter schools a chance to compete for grants to obtain funding for a permanent facility.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Please put this in the file as public testimony.

Sincerely,

Tracy Adams  
1750 E Scotwood Dr  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907)841-1345

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Harmon\_Jennifer [harmon\_jennifer@asdk12.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 11:54 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** SB 235

Dear Representative Cissna,

I am one of your constituents in Anchorage. Thank you for your service! I am a teacher at a local charter school, and I am writing in regards to SB 235.

I am so excited to see that the charter school bill, SB 235, has been calendared in the Senate. I would greatly appreciate your help in facilitating something similar from the House. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Harmon (teacher, Winterberry Charter School)

## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 10:16 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: SB 235

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mall\_Shanna [mailto:Mall\_Shanna@asdk12.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 10:12 AM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** SB 235

Dear Senator Meyer,

Please support SB 235. Charter School's greatest challenge is finding and maintaining safe, viable facilities. Please be a strong voice in Juneau helping to lead the way in passage of this charter school bill. I greatly appreciate your help in this matter.

The State of Alaska is currently ranked 34 out of 40 states in its interpretation and practice of National Charter Law. It is within your power to assure that our great State becomes a forerunner in charter school legislation.

Sincerely,

Shanna Mall

Principal  
Winterberry Charter School  
508 W 2nd Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907.301.1201

"I hope it will be said we taught them to stand tall and proud, even in the face of history and the future was made whole for us all, one child at a time" -Brian Andreas



## Jomo Stewart

---

**From:** Josh Applebee  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 8:17 AM  
**To:** Jomo Stewart  
**Subject:** FW: Support of SB235

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joe Kennedy [mailto:kennedyfish@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2010 7:20 PM  
**To:** Sen. Kevin Meyer  
**Subject:** Support of SB235

Dear Senator Meyer: I am writing in support of proposed SB235. I am the parent of three elementary-school age children attending school in Nome, Alaska. One child attends a public charter school and the other two will follow in the near future. I am in favor of eliminating the caps on the number of charter schools allowed in the state of Alaska and a state appropriation to be allotted for charter school facilities. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you. Sincerely, Paula Kennedy, PO Box 1128, Nome, AK 99762.