

## THE BREAKDOWN

Governor Whitmer used her power to veto the originally proposed budget increase to the foundational allowance for charter school students, and charter school students alone. This targeted attack on your kids and educators and our classrooms undermines our voices, our work and the success we drive every day for Michigan learners - and clearly puts the needs of the bureaucracy above the needs of 150,000+ students who attend charter schools across the state.

## 3 THINGS YOU CAN DO

### SEND A MESSAGE TO GOV. WHITMER & YOUR LOCAL LAWMAKERS

Visit [bit.ly/actnow-micharterfunding](https://bit.ly/actnow-micharterfunding) and fill out the form to automatically send a message to Governor Whitmer & your local Senator and State Representative asking that they restore charter school funding. Our voices are strongest when amplified by numbers - be sure to share the link with others who can also send a message.

### CALL GOV. WHITMER & YOUR LAWMAKERS

Making a personal phone call to a lawmaker's office can really make a difference. You may live in a different district than where your school resides. Remember to use your home mailing address to look up your lawmaker. You can find your local Senator by visiting [bit.ly/findMI senator](https://bit.ly/findMI senator), and your local State Representative by visiting [bit.ly/findMI houserep](https://bit.ly/findMI houserep). You can call Governor Whitmer's office at [517-373-3400](tel:517-373-3400).

### ATTEND LOCAL COFFEE HOURS

Coffee Hours are a key opportunity for legislators to hear feedback from their local constituents and discuss relevant issues. Once you've found your local Senator and Representative, find them on Facebook or via their website. Look for any upcoming listed coffee hours or events where you can voice feedback.

**SEE PG. 2 FOR 'WHAT TO SAY' WHEN YOU CALL A LEGISLATOR OR ATTEND COFFEE HOURS**

# COFFEE HOUR/PHONE CALL TALKING POINTS

## INTRODUCTIONS

Hi, my name is [insert name] and I [insert your role with your charter school].

## ADDRESS THE MAIN ISSUE

I wanted to call in regard to the School Aid Budget. Governor Whitmer recently used her veto power to eliminate an increase in per-pupil funding for charter school students, while giving other public school students their scheduled increase - and it's NOT ok.

## SHARE WHY YOUR CHARTER MATTERS

I choose to send my child(ren)/ teach at / work for my charter school because [insert your reasoning]. This targeted attack ignores the impact MI charters are driving for 150,000+ students every day. School funding MUST put the needs of our children first, not the interests of politician's agenda.

## THANK THEM

Thank you for your time, I appreciate you hearing my voice on this very important issue.