

General Exhibits

June 6, 2023

**Resolution Supporting Cyber Charter Reform by the Board of
Directors of the Hanover Area School District**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Pandemic resulted in closure of in-person learning and dramatically increased the availability of online school programs; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that controls be put in place to ensure these programs provide high quality education; and

WHEREAS, it is well established that online programs are less effective than in-person learning if not carefully established and monitored; and

WHEREAS, many school districts have created their own online programs that can adapt to students' needs, keep them connected with their peers, and provide the best possible education that meets or exceeds state standards; and

WHEREAS, cyber charter programs currently demand the same fees from school districts but carry none of the associated costs and oversight, draining school funds and dramatically impacting taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, cyber charter funding reform is necessary to protect the use of taxpayer funds from a students' resident school districts are not developed equitably. The amount a charter school receives is based upon a statutory funding formula, which requires tuition rates for both non special and special education. Special education identification upon enrollment or shortly thereafter is lacking justification and fidelity, leading to questionable steering of taxpayer funds.

WHEREAS, House Bill 132 would create a new process of payment for fees of a cyber charter school enrollment so that it will be paid by the student's parent or guardian where a cyber program is offered by the district of residence; would provide relief to local school districts from incurring costs associated with students enrolled in cyber charter schools; and would further provide relief to Pennsylvania taxpayers which arise from student enrollment in independent cyber charter schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Board of Directors of the HANOVER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT** support the common-sense reforms set forth in House Bill 132 and calls upon the General Assembly to meaningfully revise the current payment structure for cyber charter school students.

Adopted this 6th day of June, 2023.

John Mahle, President

Attest: _____
Rick Stevens, Secretary