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## **Letters to the Editor**

### **Charter schools work**

By John LaPlante

It's time for Kansas lawmakers to improve the footing of charter schools. ("Corkins to push school reforms," Dec. 10). These public schools have proved themselves particularly useful for serving previously underachieving students.

Currently, however, a charter school proposal in Kansas must be approved by a local school district. Naturally, any district fears the loss of its students, so Kansas has few charter schools.

The Flint Hills Center for Public Policy believes that letting universities or the State Board of Education approve charter proposals would serve the interests of students better than the current "veto" arrangement. While it is true that some families can move to other districts (a point made by Brenda Dietrich, superintendent of the Auburn-Washburn School District), not all can afford the financial and emotional costs.

If we value education rather than particular school districts, we should make charter schools (and vouchers) more readily available to families.

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