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**California Charter Authorizing Professionals (CCAP) Urges State Board of Education to Recognize Authorizer Capacity Challenges as it Considers Charter School Assessment Measures**

**Sacramento, CA; November 5, 2020** — At its [meeting this week](#), the California State Board of Education (SBE) is set to take action defining the type of “verified data” that the state’s charter school authorizers — school districts and county offices of education — must use to evaluate school quality and assess student outcomes.

The California Charter Authorizing Professionals (CCAP) sent the [attached letter](#) to the SBE to express its concerns and urge flexibility that acknowledges the challenges faced by many of the state’s charter authorizers.

“We wholeheartedly support the use of evidence-based evaluation measures, but we urge the SBE to consider the specific needs of school districts and county offices of education, especially small districts and offices, in evaluating charter school student achievement,” said David Patterson, president of CCAP’s Board of Directors. CCAP Executive Director Tom Hutton added, “In the best of times California’s small charter authorizers need flexibility and support to fulfill their important responsibility under widely varying local conditions. At a time when our whole public education system is under incredible strain right now, this is even more important.”

Of California’s approximately 330 charter authorizers more than 90 percent are small authorizers — authorizing no more than six charter schools. Small authorizers face unique staffing and funding challenges that are not addressed in the current evaluation criteria before the SBE.

You can use this link to watch the board’s [webcast](#) and phone-in for Agenda Item 14 on Friday, Nov. 6.

Information about CCAP’s ongoing work to develop better tools to assist charter authorizers in improving the authorizing and evaluation processes to advance equity and access to charter schools is available at <http://www.calauthorizers.org>.

**About CCAP:**

The mission of California Charter Authorizing Professionals (CCAP) is to advance quality public education for all students by providing charter school authorizing professionals with the support, resources, and collective voice necessary to foster high-performing, fiscally sound, autonomous, and accountable charter schools. For more information, visit <http://www.calauthorizers.org>.