



NEWS RELEASE

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EACC Recommends County Voters Vote ‘NO’ on Charter Government; Authority for Education Decisions Best Kept with Educator Experts

LA PLATA, Maryland – The Representative Assembly of the Education Association of Charles County (EACC) tonight voted to recommend that its members and the citizens of Charles County vote no on Question A, the ballot measure proposing to move Charles County to a charter form of local government from its current “Code Home Rule” status. After much discussion, including conferences with elected officials and stakeholders on both sides of the issue, and going through the organization’s prescribed endorsement process, EACC has determined that a move to charter government is not in the best interest of public education in Charles County.

“The members of our Representative Assembly and our Government Relations Committee heard many different arguments and positions from both sides of this issue,” said Sean Heyl, president of EACC, “The system as it works, the relationships between the county government, the county school system, and our union are stronger than they’ve been in a long time, and because of that, we don’t think it’s worth giving up something we know works for something we have serious questions about.”

“We are concerned about the costs associated with moving to a charter system,” said Veronica Golden, vice president of EACC and co-chair of the union’s Government Relations Committee. “The money that it would cost to implement a new charter government could very well be used to fund the increasing needs of our students and services they depend on, as well as supporting the efforts of our county’s educators, who work on behalf of our students on a daily basis.”

“Our building reps made it clear that they don’t think that moving to charter government makes sense for public education in Charles County,” said Will Lewis, treasurer of EACC and co-chair of the Government Relations Committee. “Many of our members worry that the charter as drafted leaves open too many gray areas and doesn’t answer enough questions about how the county government will function and how money gets to where it is supposed to go.”

EACC is a union of over 2,000 educators, school professionals, administrators, and supervisors in Charles County Public Schools, and has proudly represented public educators and education professionals in Charles County for more than 50 years. It is an affiliate of both the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) and the National Education Association (NEA), the largest labor organizations in Maryland and the United States respectively.

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