

## **Initiative Petition IP-2019-001**

### **Initiative to Allow Voluntary Formation of Charter Schools**

The following is a summary of the initiative:

The draft Bill proposes legislation that would allow the voluntary formation of Charter Schools. The proposed Bill is titled *“Allow the Voluntary Formation of Up To Twenty Public Charter Schools Revision Of The School Act.”* If enacted, the proposed Bill would revise the BC School Act to allow the establishment of charter schools in BC. The draft Bill proposes that a person or society could apply to the Minister of Education to establish a charter school with a particular teaching philosophy, vision and purpose with goals and measurable outcomes. The legislation would allow the Minister to approve a charter which is not based on a religious faith, is operated by the society named in the charter, and is operated in accordance with the charter approved by the Minister. The charter must also include a number of other criteria. These include learning outcomes of students, the operating period of the school, the name of the society that is to operate the school, and the grades of the students. A charter school will operate under a society incorporated under the *Societies Act*. The society would oversee the facilities and employ a principal who would supervise the operations of the teachers, other staff members, and students.