

October 3, 1997

Professor Cecil Lytle
Provost
Thurgood Marshall College
University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, California 92093-0509

Dear Cecil:

Thank you for your letter and your support for charter schools. I appreciate the struggles that charter school developers face in getting a school opened and operational.

I support charter schools as part of the growing movement to offer more opportunity and higher-quality choices in public education. In fact, my Administration proposed the creation and expansion of a federal public charter schools program to provide startup funds to support the creation of high-quality charter schools. When I first took office there was only one charter school in operation, but this fall there will be over 700, and many others are under development -- with help from the \$51 million federal charter school program.

The success of this reform depends on the vision, talent, and hard work of everyone involved in the process. Your commitment to improving education for America's children brings us closer to this goal. Best wishes for much continued success.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON

BC/LZL/RSM/JAD/emu-efr
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(Corres. #3598201)

cc: Bill Kincaid, 220