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Welcome to Wisconsin, President Obama!

Dear President Obama,

Welcome to Wisconsin! We are thrilled that you chose our state to continue your push for education reforms. As the organization representing more than 5,000 students, teachers, administrators and families within Wisconsin's online public charter school community, we wish you a warm Badger welcome.

We applaud your selection of Arne Duncan to lead the Department of Education. Secretary Duncan has been a strong proponent of charter schools and online "virtual" schools and has advocated for their use and expansion.

We are happy that you have included unfettered access to charter schools as one factor to use in allocating federal Race to the Top funds.



We hope you can convince the Governor and Wisconsin legislators to remove the cap on public online charter school enrollment in Wisconsin. Currently enrollment in these highly-successful public schools is capped at 5,250. This means that, next September, thousands of students will be shamefully locked out of the public schools they want to attend.

The enrollment cap hurts children and needlessly jeopardizes Wisconsin's access to Race to the Top Funds, an historic once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that our state may needlessly squander.

Again, Welcome to Wisconsin. We hope you enjoy your stay, and we sincerely hope you will encourage Wisconsin's state officials to promote public, online "virtual" schools as a key component in the charter school landscape.

Thank you,

The Wisconsin Coalition of Virtual School Families