

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS
Submitted by the Retirees Chapter to the November 2009 DA

Whereas, The New York State Court of appeals ruled, on Thursday, July 2, 2009, that the 2005 amendments to the state education and municipal law which call for the state comptroller to audit charter schools is unconstitutional; and

Whereas, this ruling, in reversing a lower court decision, states that because charter schools are not political subdivisions, they are not subject to comptroller audits nor should they be linked to the audits of the public districts whose limited funds are tapped to fund them; and

Whereas, in its ruling, the court of appeals cited oversight of the finances of the State's more than 140 charter schools as the responsibility of the New York State Board of Regents; and

Whereas, the state's public schools are accountable not only to the Board of Regents, but to the Commissioner of Education, the state Legislature, the Attorney General, as well as to the general public; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that NYSUT seek full disclosure by the Board of Regents of the finances of all the New York State's charter schools, opening the fiscal income and expenditures of these schools to the same public information and scrutiny as the state's more than 700 public school districts.