



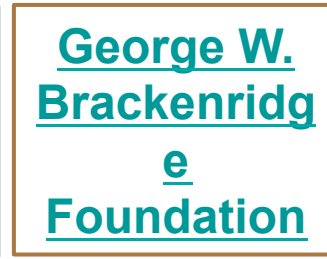
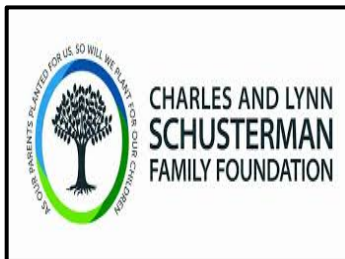
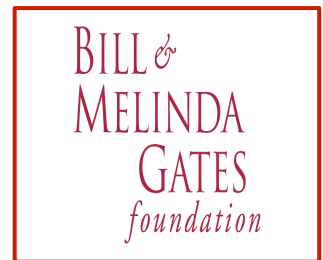
# An Overview: The Charter School Movement

August 2020

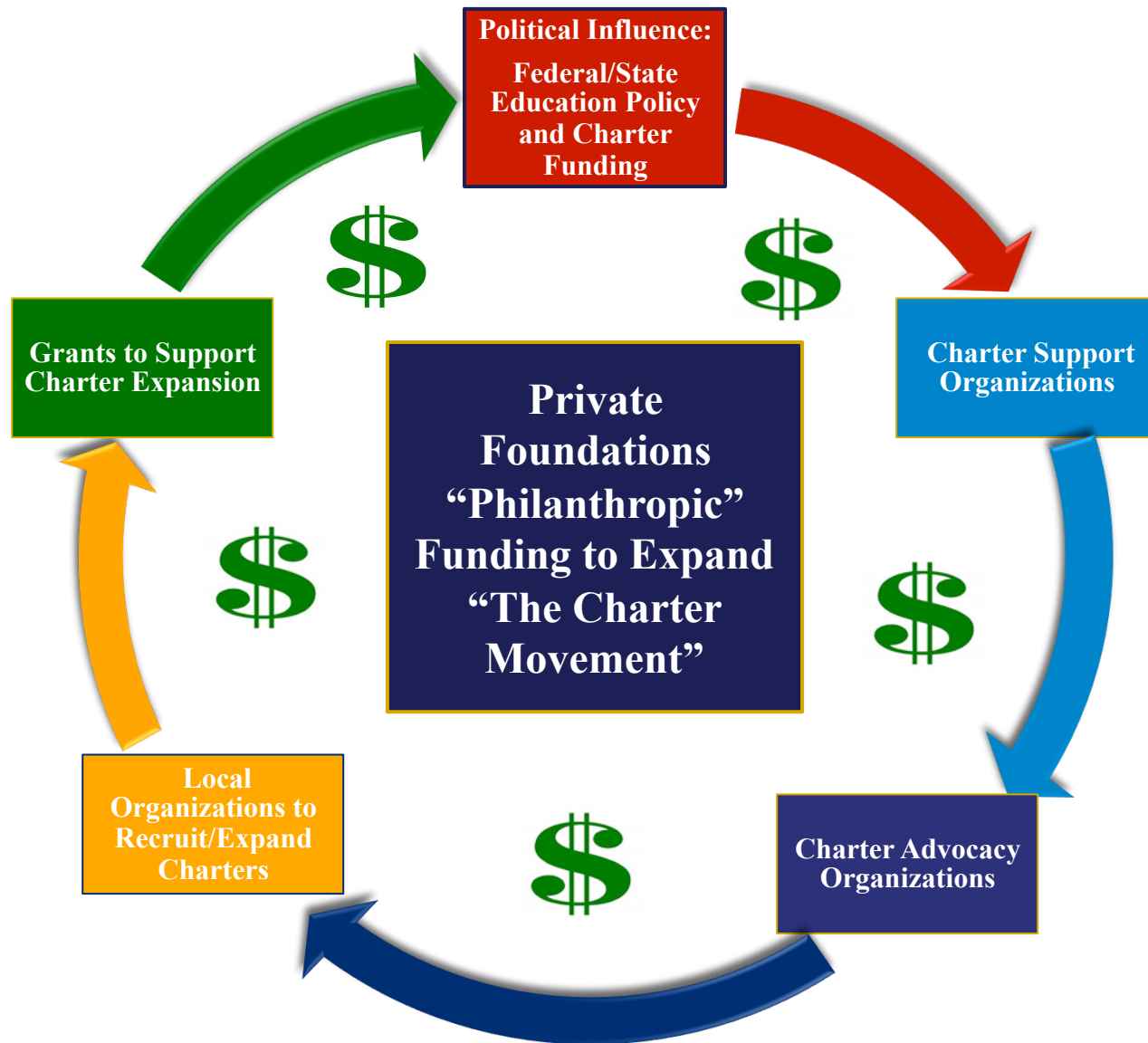
By: William J. Gumbert

# Why Is There a “Charter Movement”?

- **Overview:** The democratically elected Boards of Trustees of school districts are responsible for the public education system in local communities. To circumvent local control, the “Charter Movement” is an orchestrated initiative to permanently transfer the governance and taxpayer funding of public education from local communities to private organizations.
- **The Players:** The “Charter Movement” is not directed by local parents, taxpayers or communities. Rather, the private foundations listed below are the primary drivers of the “Charter Movement” that are attempting to control and privatize public education in Texas.



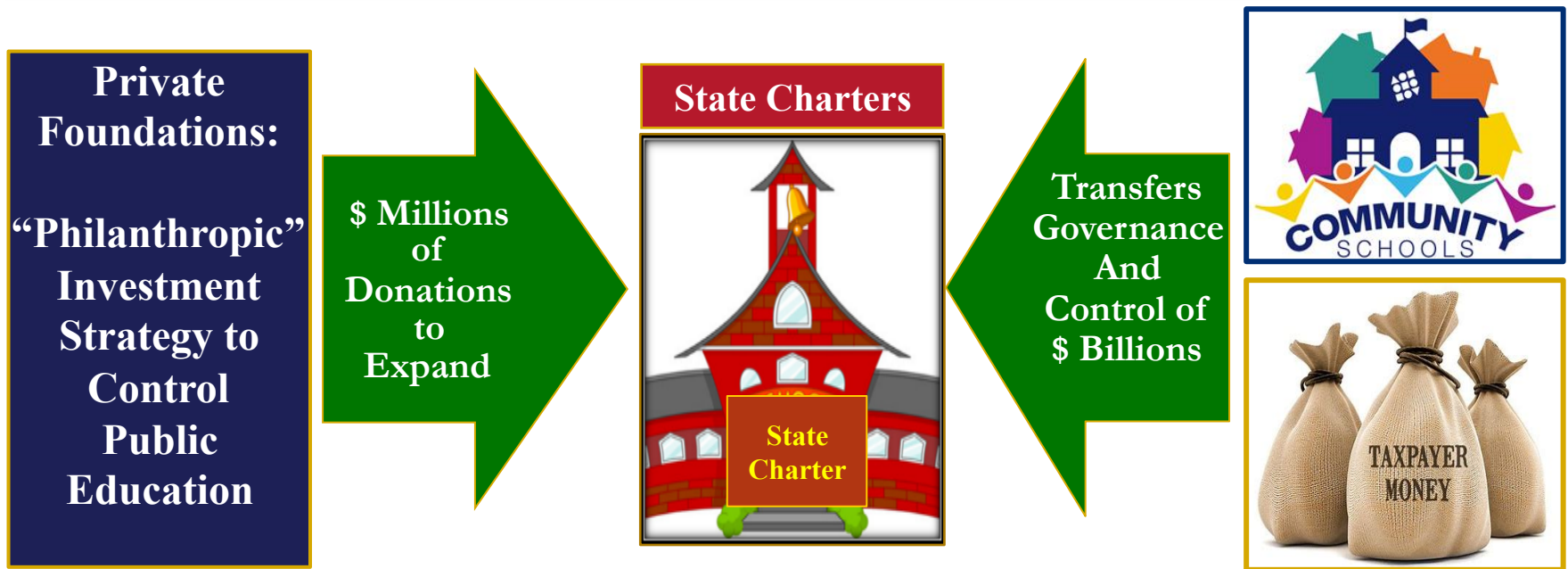
# Charter Movement: A Multi-Dimensional Strategy Disguised as “Philanthropy”



# Philanthropic Investment Strategy: Turning Millions into Billions Every Year

- Private foundations provide a few million dollars of “philanthropic investments” to fund charter advocacy/support and education policy organizations to expand charters.
- As charters expand, these “philanthropic investments” pay dividends by annually transferring the governance of more local schools and the control of billions in taxpayer funding from local communities to private organizations.

## Philanthropic Investment Strategy to Control the Governance and Funding of Public Education



# Privately Funded Charter Advocacy Organizations



Serves as the support organization for the charter school movement in Texas and has the stated objective to expand charters. Promotes charters with the media, elected officials and parents. Trains leaders and parents to become charter advocates.



A Political Action Committee formed to provide political contributions to members of the Texas Legislature to obtain favorable charter legislation to support expansion.



Advances the charter school movement by influencing Federal education policy and improving State charter policy and advocacy.



Advocacy organization that uses its network and assets to influence education policy and expand privately operated educational options in local communities.



Promotes charters in local communities, provides parents with resources on charters, and offers "fee based" student recruiting services for charters.

# Privately Funded Organizations to Influence Public Education



The Commit Partnership attempts to influence education policy, practice and funding through strategic initiatives in North Texas.



Supports increasing school options in Fort Worth, including the expansion of privately operated charters and school district partnerships with charters.



Recruits new charters to achieve the goal of having 80,000 San Antonio Area students enrolled in charters by 2026.



Works with charter management organizations and philanthropic organizations to expand the number of State charters in El Paso.



Directs educational initiatives that include the recruitment and funding of charter expansion in the Permian Basin.



# Disclosures

**It's YOUR: Children**  
**It's YOUR: Family**  
**It's YOUR: Schools**  
**It's YOUR: Tax Dollars**  
**It's YOUR: Community**  
**It's YOUR: Choice**



*Disclosures: This material was prepared by William J. Gumbert, a voluntary advocate of public education. The material was assembled to educate parents, taxpayers and stakeholders on the State's separate system of taxpayer funded, privately operated charter schools. **No direct or indirect compensation has been provided to the author for the preparation of this material and such material was not requested by any elected official or Texas school district employee.***

*The contents herein are based upon information provided by the Texas Education Agency, Txschools.gov, Google Maps, websites of organizations referenced herein, and other publicly available information. While the author believes these sources to be reliable, the author has not independently verified the information. The material also contains estimates that are based upon the professional experience of the author.*

*The opinions expressed herein are solely the opinions of the author. **All readers are encouraged to complete their own review of the "Charter Movement" and make their own independent conclusions.***