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Description of Chartering Authorities; Development and Evaluation of Charter Petitions; The Outcomes of Charter Petitions; Closed or Revoked Charter Schools; Denied Charter Petitions; GOVERNANCE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS; Dependent and Independent Charter Schools; Legal Liability in Charter Schools; Charter School Autonomy; OVERSIGHT OF CHARTER SCHOOLS; Characteristics of Chartering Authority Oversight of Charter Schools; Chartering Authority Actions Toward Charter Schools  
SERVICES PROVIDED BY CHARTERING AUTHORITIES SUMMARY; Authorization; Governance; Oversight; Services; Chapter Five; CHARTER SCHOOL FINANCES AND FACILITIES; INTRODUCTION; CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING; Meeting Legislative Requirements; Participation in Categorical Aid Programs; PRIVATE DONATIONS TO CHARTER SCHOOLS; CHARTER SCHOOL EXPENDITURES; FACILITIES; OTHER FISCAL CHALLENGES; SUMMARY; Chapter Six; ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENTS OF CHARTER AND CONVENTIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS; INTRODUCTION; PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT; Chartering Authorities' Involvement in Professional Development  
Teacher Participation in Professional Development CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION; Programs and Scheduling Modifications; Courses and Academic Program Requirements; Computers; STUDENT TESTING; PARENT INVOLVEMENT; STUDENT DISCIPLINE; SUMMARY; Chapter Seven; STAFFING IN CHARTER AND CONVENTIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS; INTRODUCTION; THE CHARACTERISTICS OF TEACHERS; Teaching Credentials; Teaching Experience; THE CHARACTERISTICS OF PRINCIPALS; Credentials and Qualifications of Principals; Administrative and Teaching Experience; WORKING CONDITIONS AND COMPENSATION OF TEACHERS  
WORKING CONDITIONS AND COMPENSATION OF PRINCIPALS

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#### Sommario/riassunto

The report analyzes an array of issues pertaining to accessibility, student achievement, governance, and operation of charter schools in California. Four specific research questions were investigated: (1) What population of students attends charter schools? (2) Is student achievement higher in charter schools than in conventional public schools? (3) What oversight and support do the chartering authorities provide? (4) How do charter schools differ from their conventional public school counterparts in terms of their operation, including finances, academic achievement, and staffing?

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