***CALIFORNIA***

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The California State Board of Education (SBE) and the California Department of

Education (CDE) propose to implement a Charter Schools Program (CSP) grant to expand the number of high quality charter schools serving high populations of educationally disadvantaged students by an estimated 120 new schools.

In alignment with California’s state level strategy, the goal of the CSP grant will be to improve access to high quality charter schools, by expanding innovative options for parents and students, thus helping California students attain measurable and continuous academic improvement. To meet this goal, CDE propose four objectives that will be achieved through state leadership and statewide collaboration. The CSP objectives for 2016‒19 are:

**Objective 1: Increase the number of high-quality charter schools.**

**Objective 2: Improve academic outcomes for educationally disadvantaged students**

**Objective 3: Dissemination of best practices**

**Objective 4: Strengthen accountability and oversight of authorizers and CSP sub-grantees**

The CSP has been an integral part of supporting charter school expansion in

California since funding was first received in 1995. California has the largest number of charter schools and charter school students of all states.

There are currently 1,208 active charter schools in California serving over 581,000 students, with another 158,000 unduplicated students on charter school waitlists throughout California.