

THROUGH THE YEARS

Key dates in the charter school movement:

Late 1980s —

Philadelphia starts a number of schools-within-schools and calls them charters

1991 — Minnesota is the first state to pass a law establishing charter schools

1992 — California is the second state to pass a charter school law

1992 — California's first charter school opens, the San Carlos Charter Learning Center

1994 — First charter school in Stanislaus County opens — Hickman Charter School, 72nd in state

1995 — 19 states have charter school laws

1998 — California adds more restrictions



to charter school law, such as requiring that charter school teachers have teaching credentials

1999 — California changes law to require that charter schools record student

attendance and offer the same minimum minutes of instruction as traditional public schools

2002 — California law changes again, this time requiring that

charter schools are located in the same geographic region as the school district that charters them

Today — 5,043 charter schools in America, educating 1.5 million

students in 39 states and the District of Columbia; California has 860 charter schools, enrolling 300,000 students

Today — Stanislaus County is home to 21 charter schools