

Charter-School Move No Revolt for NAACP

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Regarding your editorial “An NAACP Revolt on Charters” (May 7): First, three local chapters do not make a “revolt.” Second, there is a difference between proposing policy changes and rebelling against existing NAACP views adopted by the NAACP’s policy decision makers.

As such, there is no “local option” from such policies once adopted by the NAACP national board. And all units of the NAACP must abide by those policies or else—or their leaders or the entire chapter may be disciplined, including suspension, reorganization or takeover by the national office.

Whenever a local chapter proposes a change in NAACP policy, such “resolutions” are sent to the national NAACP before the group’s annual convention at which such proposals are carefully vetted, possibly rewritten or ditched—never coming out of committee and therefore never reaching the convention floor. Even on the fat chance that the local chapters’ resolution passes at the convention, the national board—at its meeting subsequent to the convention’s close—either ratifies or doesn’t ratify the convention’s handiwork. Thus, the national NAACP board has the final and preeminent say on what constitutes NAACP policy, not any one or several local chapters that purport to speak for the NAACP.

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