

*Abstract:* When President Bush signed *No Child Left Behind* into law on January 8, 2002, an already highly charged debate over school choice got an extra boost. While opponents argue that choice will lead to increased segregation, it is possible that increased choice may lead to greater integration by easing the historically tight link between residence and school attendance. This study aims to determine whether school choice, in the form of charter schools, is leading to greater segregation in Michigan public schools. Using data spanning from 1990 to 2000, I document changes in the racial composition and levels of segregation of school districts while taking into account levels of residential segregation. The results indicate that while charter schools appear to be racially distinct from traditional public schools, this is a result of their location in districts that were highly segregated by residence prior to the charter school legislation. Once this fact is taken into account, charter schools are not furthering segregation in public schools. In fact, districts with greater than 7% of their public school enrollments in charter schools experienced greater declines in school segregation than would be expected given their demographic characteristics.