

**STATE and LOCAL  
FISCAL IMPACT**

**Drafting Number:** LLS 15-0728  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Sen. Hill  
 Rep. Fields

**Date:** March 23, 2015  
**Bill Status:** Senate Education  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

**BILL TOPIC:** SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCLUSIVE CHARTERING AUTHORITY

<b>Fiscal Impact Summary*</b>	<b>FY 2015-2016</b>	<b>FY 2016-2017</b>
<b>State Revenue</b>		
<b>State Expenditures</b>		
<b>FTE Position Change</b>		
<b>Appropriation Required: None.</b>		

\* This summary shows changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year.

**Summary of Legislation**

The bill requires that the State Board of Education (SBE) revoke a school district's exclusive chartering authority if the school district is accredited with either a priority improvement plan or turnaround plan for three consecutive school years, unless the school district has a memorandum of understanding with the state Charter School Institute (CSI) that allows the institute to authorize charter schools within the district, or partner with the district to authorize charter schools. The SBE may reinstate a school district's exclusive chartering authority when the school district's accreditation status improves.

Currently, to recover exclusive chartering authority or retain it when challenged, a school district must demonstrate that it provides fair and equitable treatment to charter schools by taking actions identified in the law. This bill also requires that the school district demonstrate compliance with the authorizer standards established in SBE rules, and further requires that the district:

- issue an annual charter application information packet;
- adopt differentiated and streamlined application, renewal, and replication processes for high-quality charter schools; and
- demonstrate that the school district closes or takes meaningful action to reform schools that are low-performing for 3 consecutive school years.

If a school district does not have but desires exclusive charting authority, the district must submit a resolution to SBE and provide a copy of the resolution to each of the district's charter schools at least 30 days before submitting the resolution. A charter school or an organization that represents charter schools may also submit a written description to the SBE concerning the suitability of exclusive chartering authority for the district.

## **Background**

Under existing law, the SBE must grant school districts exclusive authority to authorize charter schools located within the geographic boundaries of the school district (exclusive chartering authority), if the school district meets specified requirements. The CSI may not authorize a charter school within the boundaries of a school district that has exclusive chartering authority without the school district's consent.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill creates a minimal workload increase for the CDE to assist the SBE with implementing the bill's requirements. No new appropriations are required.

## **School District Impact**

School districts seeking exclusive chartering authority will have a minimal workload increase to prepare and share a board resolution requesting the SBE grant the exclusive authority. New workload does not require additional state assistance in the School Finance Act.

## **Effective Date**

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

## **State and Local Government Contacts**

Education

Law