

Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 15-0728	Date: July 9, 2015
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Hill	Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely
Rep. Fields	Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

BILL TOPIC: SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCLUSIVE CHARTERING AUTHORITY

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

* 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 was postponed indefinitely by the House State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Committee on May 4, 2015.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education

Law