

**First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 15-0714.01 Brita Darling x2241

HOUSE BILL 15-1184

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lontine,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hill,

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORKS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

A charter school network, as defined in the bill, is a charter school that subsequently organizes an additional charter school.

In addition to other provisions, the bill includes provisions relating to the operation and authority of a charter school network, including appropriate expenditures for schools in the network, the sharing of expenses among the schools in the network, and accounting for those expenditures.

Finally, the bill requires an authorizer of a school within a charter


Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

school network to assess and report separately on the performance of each charter school within the performance framework and to hold each school independently accountable for its performance.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 22-30.5-104.7
3 as follows:

4 **22-30.5-104.7. Charter school networks - authority -**
5 **definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT
6 OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK" MEANS A CHARTER
7 SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THIS PART 1, AN INSTITUTE CHARTER SCHOOL
8 PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF THIS ARTICLE, OR A CHARTER SCHOOL
9 AUTHORIZED BY THE COLORADO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND,
10 ANY OF WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY ORGANIZES AN ADDITIONAL SCHOOL OR
11 SCHOOLS PURSUANT TO THE SAME STATUTORY AUTHORITY. A CHARTER
12 SCHOOL NETWORK IS RESPONSIBLE FOR GOVERNANCE, OVERSIGHT, AND
13 MONITORING OF COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE FOR EACH SCHOOL, AS
14 REQUIRED BY THE CHARTER CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS AND BY
15 APPLICABLE STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS.

16 
17 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE
18 CONTRARY, A CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK:

19 (a) MAY HOLD ONE OR MORE CHARTER CONTRACTS THROUGH ONE
20 OR MORE AUTHORIZERS FOR PURPOSES OF OPERATING MORE THAN ONE
21 SCHOOL;

22 (b) MAY BE GOVERNED BY A SINGLE GOVERNING BODY;

23 (c) MAY USE ONE OR MORE CHARTER CONTRACTS IF THE CHARTER
24 SCHOOL NETWORK OPERATES MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL THROUGH THE

1 SAME AUTHORIZER; EXCEPT THAT, IF MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL HOLDING
2 A DISTINCT SCHOOL CODE ASSIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT OPERATES
3 UNDER THE SAME CONTRACT, THE AUTHORIZER IS:

- 4 (I) OBLIGATED TO SEPARATELY ACCREDIT EACH SCHOOL; AND
- 5 (II) LEGALLY EMPOWERED TO NOT RENEW, REVOKE, OR
6 OTHERWISE TAKE ACTION WITH RESPECT TO EACH SCHOOL WITHOUT BEING
7 OBLIGATED TO TAKE ACTION TOWARD ANOTHER SCHOOL OPERATED BY
8 THE CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK;

9 (d) IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE
10 EXPENDITURES FROM ANY LAWFUL SOURCE FOR CENTRAL OFFICE
11 PURPOSES AND TO ALLOCATE FUNDS AMONG THE SCHOOLS THAT IT
12 OPERATES, AS PERMITTED BY LAW AND CONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS OF
13 THE CHARTER CONTRACT. A CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK:

14 (I) SHALL NOT SPEND ADDITIONAL LOCAL REVENUES AUTHORIZED
15 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 22-54-107.5, 22-54-108, AND 22-54-108.5 OR
16 PROCEEDS FROM BONDED INDEBTEDNESS INCURRED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE
17 42 OF THIS TITLE THAT ARE ALLOCATED FOR A SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY
18 ONE AUTHORIZER TO SUPPORT A SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A DIFFERENT
19 AUTHORIZER;

20 (II) SHALL ACCOUNT FOR ALL ADDITIONAL LOCAL REVENUES
21 AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 22-54-107.5, 22-54-108, AND
22 22-54-108.5 OR PROCEEDS FROM BONDED INDEBTEDNESS INCURRED
23 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 42 OF THIS TITLE AND THEIR EXPENDITURE AND
24 SHALL REPORT THE EXPENDITURES SEPARATELY, AS NEEDED, TO
25 DEMONSTRATE THAT THE FUNDS HAVE BEEN EXPENDED APPROPRIATELY.

26 ■

27 (III) COMMENCING JULY 1, 2015, COMPLY WITH SECTION

1 22-44-304 (1) (d) IN REPORTING EXPENDITURES AT THE LOCAL EDUCATION
2 PROVIDER AND SCHOOL-SITE LEVEL.

3 (3) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION AFFECTS THE PROCESS FOR
4 GRANTING OR DENYING A REQUEST FOR A SEPARATE OR NEW SCHOOL CODE
5 TO ANY ONE SCHOOL WITHIN A CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK.

6 (4) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION ALLOWS A CHARTER SCHOOL
7 NETWORK TO OPEN A SCHOOL WITHOUT AUTHORIZER CONSENT AS PART OF
8 THE APPLICATION PROCESS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-30.5-107,
9 22-30.5-510, OR 22-80-102 (4) (b).

10 (5) THE AUTHORIZER OF A SCHOOL THAT IS PART OF A CHARTER
11 SCHOOL NETWORK SHALL COLLECT, ANALYZE, AND REPORT DATA FROM
12 STATE ASSESSMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATUTE, STATE BOARD
13 RULES, AND SCHOOL DISTRICT OR STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE
14 PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORKS FOR EACH SCHOOL OPERATED BY THE
15 CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK. THE CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK SHALL
16 REPORT THE PERFORMANCE OF EACH SCHOOL AS A SEPARATE SCHOOL AND
17 EACH SCHOOL MUST BE HELD INDEPENDENTLY ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS
18 PERFORMANCE.

19 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
20 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
21 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.