

*Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note***NO FISCAL IMPACT**

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**Drafting Number:** LLS 15-0714  
**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Lontine  
Sen. Hill

**Date:** February 17, 2015  
**Bill Status:** House Education  
**Fiscal Analyst:** Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

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**BILL TOPIC:** CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORKS AUTHORITY

### Summary of Legislation

This bill defines a "charter school network" as a charter school that subsequently organizes an additional charter school or schools under the same statutory authority. A charter school network is responsible for the governance, oversight, and performance monitoring of charter schools within the network. In addition to other provisions, the bill permits a charter school network to hold one or more charter contracts through one or more authorizers for purposes of operating multiple schools; the network may be governed by a single governing body. The bill also includes provisions related to the 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 that the authorizer of a school within a network assess and report separately the performance of each charter school within the network, and to hold each school independently accountable for its performance.

### Assessment

Under current practice, charter school networks operate under a single board of governance. This bill aligns state law with that practice and clarifies conditions for the operation of multiple charter schools in a network, and for ensuring accountability. The bill does not require changes in the state appropriation for school finance, and does not change any workload or expenditures in any state agency. For this reason, the bill is assessed as having no fiscal impact.

### 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