

1 **SHB 2910** - H AMD TO H AMD (H-5246.1) **372 ADOPTED 2-27-96**

2 By Representative Carlson

3 On page 12, after line 23 of the amendment, insert the
4 following:

5 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** CHARTER SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (1) In
6 addition to the process prescribed in this act for establishing
7 charter schools, a school district board of directors may apply to
8 an educational service district board to receive approval for the
9 school district to be designated a charter school district.
10 Charter school districts are exempt from all state education
11 statutes and rules relating to school districts except as provided
12 in this section and in the charter school district's approved
13 charter.

14 (2) A school district board of directors that is interested
15 in having its school district be designated a charter school
16 district shall submit a written application to the educational
17 service district in which the school district is located. The
18 application shall include:

19 (a) A statement of the goals and mission of the school
20 district;

21 (b) A statement affirming that the school district has met or
22 is prepared to meet the requirements of subsection 3 of this
23 section;

24 (c) Evidence of community support for being designated a
25 charter school district, and the steps taken to solicit public
26 input on the application;

27 (d) A description of the academic performance standards that
28 will be expected of students;

29 (e) A description of the school district's educational
30 program and curriculum, which must be designed to enable each
31 student to achieve the academic performance standards;

1 (f) A description of the assessment methods that will be used
2 to measure student academic performance, and the corrective actions
3 that will be taken in the event that student performance falls
4 short of such standards;

5 (g) A listing of state statutes and regulations with which
6 the school district will comply; and

7 (h) Other information as determined by the superintendent of
8 the educational service district.

9 (3) A charter school district shall:

10 (a) Be free from sectarian and religious influence or control
11 in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all
12 other operations, in accordance with Article IX, section 4 of the
13 state Constitution;

14 (b) Comply with state and federal statutes and rules
15 applicable to school districts pertaining to health, safety, civil
16 rights, school board membership and selection, maintenance and
17 operation levy limitations, and employee compensation limitations;

18 (d) Meet student performance and assessment standards at least
19 as rigorous as those established for students in other public
20 school districts;

21 (e) Participate in nationally normed standardized achievement
22 tests as required in RCW 28A.230.190, 28A.230.230, and 28A.230.240;

23 (f) Comply with state and federal laws relating to the
24 education of children with disabilities;

25 (g) Employ certificated instructional staff in accordance with
26 chapter 28A.410 RCW;

27 (h) Comply with the employee record check requirements in RCW
28 28A.400.303;

29 (i) Be subject to the same financial and audit requirements as
30 other school districts. The superintendent of public instruction,
31 the state auditor, and the legislative budget committee may conduct
32 financial, program, performance, or compliance audits, as
33 authorized by law;

1 (j) Comply with the annual school performance report
2 requirement in RCW 28A.320.205;

3 (k) Report at least annually to its sponsor and to parents of
4 children enrolled in the school district on progress toward the
5 student performance standards;

6 (l) Maintain adequate insurance; and

7 (m) Comply with the open public meetings act in chapter 42.30
8 RCW and with public disclosure requirements in chapter 42.17 RCW.

9 (4) The educational service district board shall approve or
10 deny an application under this section based on a determination
11 that the school district has met the requirements of this section.
12 However, an educational service district shall not approve more
13 than one charter school district. If multiple applications are
14 submitted, the educational service district board of directors
15 shall be given discretion in deciding which application to approve.

16 (5) The length, renewal, amendment, and revocation of school
17 district charters shall be in accordance with the requirements and
18 criteria in sections 8 and 10 of this act. For purposes of these
19 sections, the educational service district board shall be
20 considered the sponsor.

21 (6) State funding for charter school districts shall be the
22 same as with other school districts. However, except as required
23 in this section, charter school districts shall not be required to
24 comply with state statutory and regulatory funding requirements and
25 restrictions unless the superintendent of public instruction finds
26 that non-compliance with the requirements and restrictions would
27 likely lead to unacceptable reductions in fiscal and financial
28 accountability."

29
30 Renumber remaining sections and correct internal references
31 accordingly.

EFFECT: Allows each Educational Service District to approve
a "Charter School District." Requires charter districts to

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specify student performance standards. Allows charter school districts to receive waivers from state education laws, except as specified.