

Committee on Education

CS/HB 225 — Charter School Charters

by Early Learning and Elementary Education Subcommittee and Rep. Hawkins and others (SB 892 by Senator Burgess)

The bill modifies provisions relating to a charter agreement between a sponsor and a charter school. The bill provides that a charter may be modified at any time, rather than only during its initial or renewal term.

The bill revises provisions related to consolidating two or more charter schools. A request for the consolidation of multiple charters must be approved or denied within 60 days after submission of the request. The bill also requires that any sponsor who denies a request for consolidation must provide the charter school's governing board with the specific reasons for the denial within 10 days.

Additionally, the bill modifies the procedures and notification timeframe for terminating or non-renewing a charter. A sponsor must provide notice to a charter school of a decision to renew, terminate, other than an immediate termination, or not renew the charter before a vote and at least 90 days before the end of the school year. The bill provides for the automatic renewal of a charter if notification does not occur at least 90 days before the end of the school year.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2022.

Vote: Senate 24-13; House 105-10