

By Senator Posey

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to charter school districts;
amending s. 1003.62, F.S.; providing additional
criteria for the establishment of a charter
school district; providing for renewal of the
charter; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1003.62, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

1003.62 Charter school districts pilot program.--The
State Board of Education is authorized to enter into a
performance contract with up to six district school boards for
the purpose of establishing them as charter school districts.
The State Board of Education shall give priority to
Hillsborough and Volusia Counties upon the submission of a
completed precharter agreement or charter proposal for a
charter school district. The purpose of this pilot program is
to examine a new relationship between the State Board of
Education and district school boards that may produce
significant improvements in student achievement and school
management, while complying with constitutional requirements
assigned to each entity.

(1) CHARTER DISTRICT.--A charter school district is a
school district in Florida in which the district school board
has submitted and the State Board of Education has approved a
charter proposal that exchanges statutory and rule exemption
for agreement to meet performance goals in the proposal. The
charter school district shall be chartered for 3 years, at the
end of which the performance shall be evaluated. A school

1 district in which a minimum of 50 percent of the schools earn
2 a grade of "A" or "B" and in which no school earns a grade of
3 "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34(2) is eligible to be
4 designated as a charter school district. Schools that receive
5 a grade of "I" or "N" shall not be included in this
6 calculation. The performance contract for a school district
7 that earns a charter based on school grades shall be
8 predicated upon at least half the schools in the district
9 maintaining a grade of "A" or "B" and no school's earning a
10 grade of "D" or "F." The charter for a school district that
11 qualifies based on school grades applies for one full school
12 year after qualification and shall be renewed each year that
13 the district continues to qualify based on the school grades
14 within the district.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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18 SENATE SUMMARY

19 Provides that a school district may become a charter
20 school district by having at least 50 percent of the
21 district schools earn "A's" or "B's" and having no
22 schools in the district earn "D's" or "F's." Provides for
23 renewal of such charters.
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