

By the Committee on Education; and Senator Posey

304-2310-03

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to charter school districts;
3 amending s. 1003.62, F.S.; providing additional
4 criteria for the establishment of a charter
5 school district; providing for renewal of the
6 charter; providing an effective date.

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

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

12 1003.62 Charter school districts pilot program.--The
13 State Board of Education is authorized to enter into a
14 performance contract with up to six district school boards for
15 the purpose of establishing them as charter school districts.
16 The State Board of Education shall give priority to
17 Hillsborough and Volusia Counties upon the submission of a
18 completed precharter agreement or charter proposal for a
19 charter school district. The purpose of this pilot program is
20 to examine a new relationship between the State Board of
21 Education and district school boards that may produce
22 significant improvements in student achievement and school
23 management, while complying with constitutional requirements
24 assigned to each entity.

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

1 Board of Education shall use the criteria approved in the
2 charter application to renew the charter of any school
3 district designated as a charter school district prior to June
4 30, 2003. A school district in which a minimum of 50 percent
5 of the schools earn a grade of "A" or "B" and in which no
6 school earns a grade of "D" or "F" pursuant to s. 1008.34(2)
7 is eligible to be designated as a charter school district.
8 Schools that receive a grade of "I" or "N" shall not be
9 included in this calculation. The performance contract for a
10 school district that earns a charter based on school grades
11 shall be predicated upon at least half the schools in the
12 district maintaining a grade of "A" or "B" and no school
13 earning a grade of "D" or "F." The charter for a school
14 district that qualifies based on school grades applies for one
15 full school year after qualification and shall be renewed each
16 year that the district continues to qualify based on the
17 school grades within the district.

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

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20 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
21 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
22 Senate Bill 2170

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24 Changes in the Committee Substitute clarify language relating
25 to the renewal criteria for a charter school district created
26 through a performance contract with the State Board of
27 Education. The State Board shall make its decision on whether
28 to renew the charter based on how well the district has met
29 the criteria approved in the district's charter application.
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