By Senator Altman

24-00450A-10 2010534\_\_\_ A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to virtual schools; amending s. 1002.33, F.S.; providing that a virtual school operated by an approved provider under s. 1002.45, F.S., may be a charter school for purposes of s. 1002.33, F.S.; providing that the virtual school is not subject to certain provisions pertaining to facilities or student transportation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.-

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—Charter schools shall be part of the state's program of public education. All charter schools in Florida are public schools. A charter school may be formed by creating a new school or converting an existing public school to charter status. A virtual school operated by a provider that is approved by the Department of Education under s. 1002.45 may be a charter school for purposes of this section. However, the virtual school is not subject to or governed by the provisions in this section which pertain to facilities or student transportation. A public school may not use the term charter in its name unless it has been approved under this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.