

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

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Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

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BILL: CS/CS/SB 1528

INTRODUCER: Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; Education Committee and Senator Bradley

SUBJECT: Charter Schools

DATE: April 10, 2014

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Hand</u>	<u>Klebacha</u>	<u>ED</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u>Sikes</u>	<u>Elwell</u>	<u>AED</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3.	_____	_____	<u>AP</u>	_____

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**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

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**I. Summary:**

CS/CS/SB 1528 allows for a military installation commander to apply for a charter school under established conditions. The bill also revises the requirements for a charter school application to include additional fiscal responsibility standards.

This bill has no fiscal impact.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

**II. Present Situation:**

Charter schools are public schools that operate under a charter agreement with a sponsor.<sup>1</sup> A charter school is typically sponsored by a district school board.<sup>2</sup> Charter schools must organize as, or be operated by, a nonprofit organization. An application for a new charter school may be made by an individual, teachers, parents, a group of individuals, a municipality, or a legal entity organized under the laws of this state.<sup>3</sup> To ensure fiscal responsibility, an application for a charter school must include:

- A full accounting of expected assets;

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1002.33(7), F.S.

<sup>2</sup> Section 1002.33(5), F.S. However, charter schools may also be sponsored by a state university or Florida College System institution. Sections 1002.33(5)(a)2. and 4., F.S.

<sup>3</sup> Section 1002.33 (

- A projection of expected sources and amounts of income, including income derived from projected student enrollments and from community support; and
- An expense projection that include full accounting of the costs of operation, including start-up costs.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill allows for a military installation commander to apply for a charter school on a military installation under established conditions and revises the requirements for a charter school application to include additional fiscal responsibility standards.

The bill allows for a military installation commander to apply for a charter school if:

- The commander is a member of the charter school's not-for-profit governing board;
- The charter school is located on the military installation; and
- The governing board operates the charter school or contracts with a management company or similar entity to operate the charter school.

The bill also includes additional fiscal responsibility standards for a charter school application by requiring any charter school application include fees paid to a third party for services and the purpose of such fees.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2014.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

#### **B. Private Sector Impact:**

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

CS/CS/SB 1528 has no fiscal impact.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 1002.33 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**Recommended CS by Appropriations Subcommittee on Education on April 9, 2014:**

The committee substitute:

- Allows for a military installation commander to apply for a charter school on a military installation under established conditions; and
- Revises the requirements for a charter school application to include additional fiscal responsibility standards.

**CS by Education on March 25, 2014:**

The committee substitute:

- Revises the means by which charter schools and sponsors may resolve disputes regarding charter agreements.
- Provides transparency regarding student withdrawals.
- Removes all language in the bill, including charter schools provisions (i.e., application and contract provisions, application deficiencies, term of charter for private nonprofit corporations, automatic termination of double-F charter schools, charter school facilities, and sponsor limitations on charter school enrollment), and all provisions for high-performing charter schools, high-performing charter school systems, virtual charter schools, and virtual instruction programs.

- B. Amendments:

None.