



552164

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/26/2019	.	
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The Committee on Education (Farmer) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Section 1001.241, Florida Statutes, is created  
to read:

1001.241 Third-party credentialing entities.—

(1) The department shall approve one or more third-party  
credentialing entities for the purposes of developing and  
administering a credentialing program for charter school  
principals, charter school governing board members, and charter



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12 school chief financial officers. The approved credentialing  
13 entity shall:

14 (a) Establish position core competencies, certification  
15 requirements, testing instruments, and recertification  
16 requirements for charter school principals, charter school  
17 governing board members, and charter school chief financial  
18 officers.

19 (b) Establish a process to administer the certification  
20 application, award, and maintenance processes.

21 (c) Develop and administer:

22 1. A code of ethics and disciplinary process.

23 2. Biennial continuing education requirements and annual  
24 certification renewal requirements.

25 3. An education provider program to approve training  
26 entities that are qualified to provide precertification training  
27 to applicants and continuing education opportunities to  
28 certified persons.

29 (2) A credentialing entity shall establish a certification  
30 program that:

31 (a) Is directly related to the core competencies.

32 (b) Establishes minimum requirements in each of the

33 following categories:

34 1. Training.

35 2. On-the-job work experience.

36 3. Supervision.

37 4. Testing.

38 5. Biennial continuing education.

39 (c) Requires adherence to a code of ethics and provides for  
40 a disciplinary process that applies to certified persons.



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41 (d) Approves qualified training entities that provide  
42 precertification training to applicants and continuing education  
43 to charter school principals, charter school governing board  
44 members, and charter school chief financial officers. To avoid a  
45 conflict of interest, a credentialing entity or its affiliate  
46 may not deliver training to an applicant or continuing education  
47 to a certificateholder.

48 (3) A credentialing entity shall establish application,  
49 examination, and certification fees and an annual certification  
50 renewal fee. The application, examination, and certification fee  
51 may not exceed \$225. The annual certification renewal fee may  
52 not exceed \$100.

53 (4) All applicants are subject to level 2 background  
54 screening as provided under chapter 435. An applicant is  
55 ineligible, and a credentialing entity shall deny the  
56 application, if the applicant has been found guilty of, or has  
57 entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, regardless of  
58 adjudication, any offense listed in s. 435.04(2) unless the  
59 department has issued an exemption under s. 397.4872. In  
60 accordance with s. 435.04, the Department of Law Enforcement  
61 shall notify the credentialing entity of the applicant's  
62 eligibility based on the results of his or her background  
63 screening.

64 (5) The credentialing entity shall issue a certificate of  
65 compliance upon approval of a person's application. The  
66 certification shall automatically terminate 1 year after  
67 issuance if not renewed.

68 (a) A credentialing entity may suspend or revoke the  
69 certificate of compliance of a charter school principal, a



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70 charter school governing board member, or a charter school chief  
71 financial officer if the charter school principal, the charter  
72 school governing board member, or the charter school chief  
73 financial officer fails to adhere to the continuing education  
74 requirements.

75 (b) A credentialing entity shall revoke a certificate of  
76 compliance of a charter school principal, charter school  
77 governing board member, or charter school chief financial  
78 officer if the charter school principal, charter school  
79 governing board member, or charter school chief financial  
80 officer provides false or misleading information to the  
81 credentialing entity at any time.

82 (c) If a charter school principal, charter school governing  
83 board member, or charter school chief financial officer is  
84 arrested for or found guilty of, or enters a plea of guilty or  
85 nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any offense  
86 listed in s. 435.04(2) while acting in that capacity, the  
87 charter school shall immediately remove the person from that  
88 position and shall notify the credentialing entity within 3  
89 business days after such removal.

90 (6) Any decision by a department-recognized credentialing  
91 program to deny certification or otherwise impose sanctions on  
92 an individual who is certified is reviewable by the department.  
93 The individual aggrieved may request an administrative hearing  
94 conducted pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57(1) within 30 days  
95 after receiving an adverse determination after completing any  
96 appeals process offered by the credentialing program.

97 Section 2. Present paragraphs (g), (h), and (i) of  
98 subsection (12) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are



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99 redesignated as paragraphs (h), (i), and (j), respectively, and  
100 a new paragraph (g) is added to that subsection, paragraph (g)  
101 is added to subsection (8), and paragraph (b) of subsection (6)  
102 and paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of that section are amended,  
103 to read:

104 1002.33 Charter schools.—

105 (6) APPLICATION PROCESS AND REVIEW.—Charter school  
106 applications are subject to the following requirements:

107 (b) A sponsor shall receive and review all applications for  
108 a charter school using the evaluation instrument developed by  
109 the Department of Education. A sponsor shall receive and  
110 consider charter school applications received on or before  
111 August 1 of each calendar year for charter schools to be opened  
112 at the beginning of the school district's next school year, or  
113 to be opened at a time determined ~~agreed to~~ by the applicant and  
114 the sponsor. A sponsor may not refuse to receive a charter  
115 school application submitted before August 1 and may receive an  
116 application submitted later than August 1 if it chooses.

117 ~~Beginning in 2018 and thereafter,~~ A sponsor shall also receive  
118 and consider charter school applications received on or before  
119 February 1 of each calendar year for charter schools to be  
120 opened ~~18 months later~~ at the beginning of the school district's  
121 school year, or to be opened at a time determined by the  
122 applicant. A sponsor may not refuse to receive a charter school  
123 application submitted before February 1 and may receive an  
124 application submitted later than February 1 if it chooses. A  
125 sponsor may not charge an applicant for a charter any fee for  
126 the processing or consideration of an application, and a sponsor  
127 may not base its consideration or approval of a final



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128 application upon the promise of future payment of any kind. If  
129 an applicant is ready to do so, it may open a charter school  
130 before the school district's next school year after approval of  
131 the charter school application submitted by either application  
132 deadline. Before approving or denying any application, the  
133 sponsor shall allow the applicant, upon receipt of written  
134 notification, at least 7 calendar days to make technical or  
135 nonsubstantive corrections and clarifications, including, but  
136 not limited to, corrections of grammatical, typographical, and  
137 like errors or missing signatures, if such errors are identified  
138 by the sponsor as cause to deny the final application.

139 1. In order to facilitate an accurate budget projection  
140 process, a sponsor shall be held harmless for FTE students who  
141 are not included in the FTE projection due to approval of  
142 charter school applications after the FTE projection deadline.  
143 In a further effort to facilitate an accurate budget projection,  
144 within 15 calendar days after receipt of a charter school  
145 application, a sponsor shall report to the Department of  
146 Education the name of the applicant entity, the proposed charter  
147 school location, and its projected FTE.

148 2. In order to ensure fiscal responsibility, an application  
149 for a charter school shall include a full accounting of expected  
150 assets, a projection of expected sources and amounts of income,  
151 including income derived from projected student enrollments and  
152 from community support, and an expense projection that includes  
153 full accounting of the costs of operation, including start-up  
154 costs.

155 3.a. A sponsor shall by a majority vote approve or deny an  
156 application no later than 90 calendar days after the application



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157 is received, unless the sponsor and the applicant mutually agree  
158 in writing to temporarily postpone the vote to a specific date,  
159 at which time the sponsor shall by a majority vote approve or  
160 deny the application. If the sponsor fails to act on the  
161 application, an applicant may appeal to the State Board of  
162 Education as provided in paragraph (c). If an application is  
163 denied, the sponsor shall, within 10 calendar days after such  
164 denial, articulate in writing the specific reasons, based upon  
165 good cause, supporting its denial of the application and shall  
166 provide the letter of denial and supporting documentation to the  
167 applicant and to the Department of Education.

168       b. An application submitted by a high-performing charter  
169 school identified pursuant to s. 1002.331 or a high-performing  
170 charter school system identified pursuant to s. 1002.332 may be  
171 denied by the sponsor only if the sponsor demonstrates by clear  
172 and convincing evidence that:

173       (I) The application of a high-performing charter school  
174 does not materially comply with the requirements in paragraph  
175 (a) or, for a high-performing charter school system, the  
176 application does not materially comply with s. 1002.332(2)(b);

177       (II) The charter school proposed in the application does  
178 not materially comply with the requirements in paragraphs  
179 (9)(a)-(f);

180       (III) The proposed charter school's educational program  
181 does not substantially replicate that of the applicant or one of  
182 the applicant's high-performing charter schools;

183       (IV) The applicant has made a material misrepresentation or  
184 false statement or concealed an essential or material fact  
185 during the application process; or



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186 (V) The proposed charter school's educational program and  
187 financial management practices do not materially comply with the  
188 requirements of this section.

189  
190 Material noncompliance is a failure to follow requirements or a  
191 violation of prohibitions applicable to charter school  
192 applications, which failure is quantitatively or qualitatively  
193 significant either individually or when aggregated with other  
194 noncompliance. An applicant is considered to be replicating a  
195 high-performing charter school if the proposed school is  
196 substantially similar to at least one of the applicant's high-  
197 performing charter schools and the organization or individuals  
198 involved in the establishment and operation of the proposed  
199 school are significantly involved in the operation of replicated  
200 schools.

201 c. If the sponsor denies an application submitted by a  
202 high-performing charter school or a high-performing charter  
203 school system, the sponsor must, within 10 calendar days after  
204 such denial, state in writing the specific reasons, based upon  
205 the criteria in sub-subparagraph b., supporting its denial of  
206 the application and must provide the letter of denial and  
207 supporting documentation to the applicant and to the Department  
208 of Education. The applicant may appeal the sponsor's denial of  
209 the application in accordance with paragraph (c).

210 4. For budget projection purposes, the sponsor shall report  
211 to the Department of Education the approval or denial of an  
212 application within 10 calendar days after such approval or  
213 denial. In the event of approval, the report to the Department  
214 of Education shall include the final projected FTE for the





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215 approved charter school.

216         5. Upon approval of an application, the initial startup  
217 shall commence with the beginning of the public school calendar  
218 for the district in which the charter is granted. A charter  
219 school may defer the opening of the school's operations for up  
220 to 3 years to provide time for adequate facility planning. The  
221 charter school must provide written notice of such intent to the  
222 sponsor and the parents of enrolled students at least 30  
223 calendar days before the first day of school.

224         (7) CHARTER.—The terms and conditions for the operation of  
225 a charter school shall be set forth by the sponsor and the  
226 applicant in a written contractual agreement, called a charter.  
227 The sponsor and the governing board of the charter school shall  
228 use the standard charter contract pursuant to subsection (21),  
229 which shall incorporate the approved application and any addenda  
230 approved with the application. Any term or condition of a  
231 proposed charter contract that differs from the standard charter  
232 contract adopted by rule of the State Board of Education shall  
233 be presumed a limitation on charter school flexibility. The  
234 sponsor may not impose unreasonable rules or regulations that  
235 violate the intent of giving charter schools greater flexibility  
236 to meet educational goals. The charter shall be signed by the  
237 governing board of the charter school and the sponsor, following  
238 a public hearing to ensure community input.

239         (a) The charter shall address and criteria for approval of  
240 the charter shall be based on:

241             1. The school's mission, the students to be served, and the  
242 ages and grades to be included.

243             2. The focus of the curriculum, the instructional methods



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244 to be used, any distinctive instructional techniques to be  
245 employed, and identification and acquisition of appropriate  
246 technologies needed to improve educational and administrative  
247 performance which include a means for promoting safe, ethical,  
248 and appropriate uses of technology which comply with legal and  
249 professional standards.

250 a. The charter shall ensure that reading is a primary focus  
251 of the curriculum and that resources are provided to identify  
252 and provide specialized instruction for students who are reading  
253 below grade level. The curriculum and instructional strategies  
254 for reading must be consistent with the Next Generation Sunshine  
255 State Standards and grounded in scientifically based reading  
256 research.

257 b. In order to provide students with access to diverse  
258 instructional delivery models, to facilitate the integration of  
259 technology within traditional classroom instruction, and to  
260 provide students with the skills they need to compete in the  
261 21st century economy, the Legislature encourages instructional  
262 methods for blended learning courses consisting of both  
263 traditional classroom and online instructional techniques.  
264 Charter schools may implement blended learning courses which  
265 combine traditional classroom instruction and virtual  
266 instruction. Students in a blended learning course must be full-  
267 time students of the charter school pursuant to s.  
268 1011.61(1)(a)1. Instructional personnel certified pursuant to s.  
269 1012.55 who provide virtual instruction for blended learning  
270 courses may be employees of the charter school or may be under  
271 contract to provide instructional services to charter school  
272 students. At a minimum, such instructional personnel must hold



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273 an active state or school district adjunct certification under  
274 s. 1012.57 for the subject area of the blended learning course.  
275 The funding and performance accountability requirements for  
276 blended learning courses are the same as those for traditional  
277 courses.

278 3. The current incoming baseline standard of student  
279 academic achievement, the outcomes to be achieved, and the  
280 method of measurement that will be used. The criteria listed in  
281 this subparagraph shall include a detailed description of:

282 a. How the baseline student academic achievement levels and  
283 prior rates of academic progress will be established.

284 b. How these baseline rates will be compared to rates of  
285 academic progress achieved by these same students while  
286 attending the charter school.

287 c. To the extent possible, how these rates of progress will  
288 be evaluated and compared with rates of progress of other  
289 closely comparable student populations.

290  
291 The district school board is required to provide academic  
292 student performance data to charter schools for each of their  
293 students coming from the district school system, as well as  
294 rates of academic progress of comparable student populations in  
295 the district school system.

296 4. The methods used to identify the educational strengths  
297 and needs of students and how well educational goals and  
298 performance standards are met by students attending the charter  
299 school. The methods shall provide a means for the charter school  
300 to ensure accountability to its constituents by analyzing  
301 student performance data and by evaluating the effectiveness and



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302 efficiency of its major educational programs. Students in  
303 charter schools shall, at a minimum, participate in the  
304 statewide assessment program created under s. 1008.22.

305 5. In secondary charter schools, a method for determining  
306 that a student has satisfied the requirements for graduation in  
307 s. 1002.3105(5), s. 1003.4281, or s. 1003.4282.

308 6. A method for resolving conflicts between the governing  
309 board of the charter school and the sponsor.

310 7. The admissions procedures and dismissal procedures,  
311 including the school's code of student conduct. Admission or  
312 dismissal must not be based on a student's academic performance.

313 8. The ways by which the school will achieve a  
314 racial/ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves or  
315 within the racial/ethnic range of other public schools in the  
316 same school district.

317 9. The financial and administrative management of the  
318 school, including a reasonable demonstration of the professional  
319 experience or competence of those individuals or organizations  
320 applying to operate the charter school or those hired or  
321 retained to perform such professional services and the  
322 description of clearly delineated responsibilities and the  
323 policies and practices needed to effectively manage the charter  
324 school. A description of internal audit procedures and  
325 establishment of controls to ensure that financial resources are  
326 properly managed must be included. Both public sector and  
327 private sector professional experience shall be equally valid in  
328 such a consideration.

329 10. The asset and liability projections required in the  
330 application which are incorporated into the charter and shall be



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331 compared with information provided in the annual report of the  
332 charter school.

333 11. A description of procedures that identify various risks  
334 and provide for a comprehensive approach to reduce the impact of  
335 losses; plans to ensure the safety and security of students and  
336 staff; plans to identify, minimize, and protect others from  
337 violent or disruptive student behavior; and the manner in which  
338 the school will be insured, including whether or not the school  
339 will be required to have liability insurance, and, if so, the  
340 terms and conditions thereof and the amounts of coverage.

341 12. The term of the charter which shall provide for  
342 cancellation of the charter if insufficient progress has been  
343 made in attaining the student achievement objectives of the  
344 charter and if it is not likely that such objectives can be  
345 achieved before expiration of the charter. The initial term of a  
346 charter shall be for 5 years, excluding 2 planning years. In  
347 order to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for  
348 charter school construction, charter schools that are operated  
349 by a municipality or other public entity as provided by law are  
350 eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the  
351 district school board. A charter lab school is eligible for a  
352 charter for a term of up to 15 years. In addition, to facilitate  
353 access to long-term financial resources for charter school  
354 construction, charter schools that are operated by a private,  
355 not-for-profit, s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for  
356 up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district  
357 school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual  
358 review and may be terminated during the term of the charter, but  
359 only according to the provisions set forth in subsection (8).



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360           13. The facilities to be used and their location. The  
361 sponsor may not require a charter school to have a certificate  
362 of occupancy or a temporary certificate of occupancy for such a  
363 facility earlier than 15 calendar days before the first day of  
364 school.

365           14. The qualifications to be required of the teachers and  
366 the potential strategies used to recruit, hire, train, and  
367 retain qualified staff to achieve best value.

368           15. The governance structure of the school, including the  
369 status of the charter school as a public or private employer as  
370 required in paragraph (12) (j) ~~(12) (i)~~.

371           16. A timetable for implementing the charter which  
372 addresses the implementation of each element thereof and the  
373 date by which the charter shall be awarded in order to meet this  
374 timetable.

375           17. In the case of an existing public school that is being  
376 converted to charter status, alternative arrangements for  
377 current students who choose not to attend the charter school and  
378 for current teachers who choose not to teach in the charter  
379 school after conversion in accordance with the existing  
380 collective bargaining agreement or district school board rule in  
381 the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. However,  
382 alternative arrangements shall not be required for current  
383 teachers who choose not to teach in a charter lab school, except  
384 as authorized by the employment policies of the state university  
385 which grants the charter to the lab school.

386           18. Full disclosure of the identity of all relatives  
387 employed by the charter school who are related to the charter  
388 school owner, president, chairperson of the governing board of



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389 directors, superintendent, governing board member, principal,  
390 assistant principal, or any other person employed by the charter  
391 school who has equivalent decisionmaking authority. For the  
392 purpose of this subparagraph, the term "relative" means father,  
393 mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first  
394 cousin, nephew, niece, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-  
395 law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law,  
396 stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother,  
397 stepsister, half brother, or half sister.

398 19. Implementation of the activities authorized under s.  
399 1002.331 by the charter school when it satisfies the eligibility  
400 requirements for a high-performing charter school. A high-  
401 performing charter school shall notify its sponsor in writing by  
402 March 1 if it intends to increase enrollment or expand grade  
403 levels the following school year. The written notice shall  
404 specify the amount of the enrollment increase and the grade  
405 levels that will be added, as applicable.

406 (8) CAUSES FOR NONRENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF CHARTER.-

407 (g)1. If a charter is terminated or a charter school closes  
408 before the end of a school year or within 3 years after  
409 beginning operations and, after a specific finding by the school  
410 district of material fraud, disregard of generally accepted  
411 accounting principles, or of intentional malfeasance by an  
412 applicant for the charter, the charter school owner, the charter  
413 school president, charter school governing board members, and  
414 the relatives of such owner, upon findings made by the school  
415 district, the applicant for the charter, the charter school  
416 owner, the charter school president, the charter school  
417 governing board members, and the relatives of such owner,



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418 president, or governing board member may not submit an  
419 application to open a charter school in this state pursuant to  
420 subsection (6) for a period of 5 years after the termination of  
421 the charter or closure of the charter school. The applicant for  
422 the charter, the charter school owner, the charter school  
423 president, the charter school governing board members, and the  
424 relatives of such owner, president, or governing board member,  
425 may appeal to the charter appeals commission the school  
426 district's finding of material fraud, intentional malfeasance,  
427 or disregard of generally accepted accounting principles.

428 2. If a charter school owner, a charter school president, a  
429 member of a charter school governing board, a charter management  
430 organization, or an education management organization is  
431 convicted of a crime, including, but not limited to, material  
432 fraud or serious financial theft offenses, misrepresentation,  
433 fraud, or misappropriation related to the operation of a charter  
434 school, that owner, president, or governing board member,  
435 including any relatives of such individuals, or the charter  
436 management organization or the education management  
437 organization, may not submit an application to open a charter  
438 school in this state pursuant to subsection (6) for a period of  
439 10 years after such conviction.

440  
441 For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "relative" has the  
442 same meaning as specified in subparagraph (24) (a)2.

443 (12) EMPLOYEES OF CHARTER SCHOOLS.—

444 (g) Each charter school principal, governing board member,  
445 chief financial officer, or equivalent position must hold a  
446 valid certification issued by a third-party credentialing entity





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447 that is recognized under s. 1001.241, at least 30 days before  
448 the school opens or within 30 days of the first date of  
449 employment, whichever comes first. The credentialing entity must  
450 certify the individual's core competence in the administration  
451 of a charter school, including, but not limited to, developing  
452 and adjusting business plans; accurate financial planning and  
453 good business practices, including accounting for costs and  
454 income; state and federal grant and student performance  
455 accountability requirements; identification of, and application  
456 for, state and federal funding sources; and governance,  
457 including government in the sunshine, conflicts of interest,  
458 ethics, and financial responsibility. An individual certified  
459 under this paragraph meets the training requirements under  
460 subparagraph (h)3., paragraph (6)(f), and subparagraph (9)(j)4.

461 Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section  
462 1002.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

463 1002.45 Virtual instruction programs.—

464 (1) PROGRAM.—

465 (d) A virtual charter school may provide part-time and  
466 full-time virtual instruction for students in kindergarten  
467 through grade 12 if the virtual charter school has a charter  
468 approved pursuant to s. 1002.33 ~~authorizing full-time virtual~~  
469 ~~instruction~~. A virtual charter school may:

470 1. Contract with the Florida Virtual School.

471 2. Contract with or be an approved provider under  
472 subsection (2).

473 3. Enter into an agreement with a school district to allow  
474 the participation of the virtual charter school's students in  
475 the school district's virtual instruction program. The agreement



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476 must indicate a process for reporting of student enrollment and  
477 the transfer of funds required by paragraph (7) (e).

478 Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section  
479 1012.32, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

480 1012.32 Qualifications of personnel.—

481 (2)

482 (b) Instructional and noninstructional personnel who are  
483 hired or contracted to fill positions in any charter school and  
484 members of the governing board of any charter school, in  
485 compliance with s. 1002.33(12) (h) ~~s. 1002.33(12) (g)~~, must, upon  
486 employment, engagement of services, or appointment, undergo  
487 background screening as required under s. 1012.465 or s.  
488 1012.56, whichever is applicable, by filing with any single ~~the~~  
489 district school board for the school district in which one of  
490 the charter governing board's charter schools ~~the charter school~~  
491 is located a complete set of fingerprints taken by an authorized  
492 law enforcement agency or an employee of the school or school  
493 district who is trained to take fingerprints. Once such  
494 instructional and noninstructional personnel are fingerprinted  
495 and pass the appropriate background check in any single school  
496 district, such fingerprints and background check shall be valid  
497 for a period of 3 years and valid in all school districts  
498 throughout the state.

499  
500 Fingerprints shall be submitted to the Department of Law  
501 Enforcement for statewide criminal and juvenile records checks  
502 and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for federal criminal  
503 records checks. A person subject to this subsection who is found  
504 ineligible for employment under s. 1012.315, or otherwise found



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505 through background screening to have been convicted of any crime  
506 involving moral turpitude as defined by rule of the State Board  
507 of Education, shall not be employed, engaged to provide  
508 services, or serve in any position that requires direct contact  
509 with students. Probationary persons subject to this subsection  
510 terminated because of their criminal record have the right to  
511 appeal such decisions. The cost of the background screening may  
512 be borne by the district school board, the charter school, the  
513 employee, the contractor, or a person subject to this  
514 subsection. A district school board shall reimburse a charter  
515 school the cost of background screening if it does not notify  
516 the charter school of the eligibility of a governing board  
517 member or instructional or noninstructional personnel within the  
518 earlier of 14 days after receipt of the background screening  
519 results from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement or 30  
520 days of submission of fingerprints by the governing board member  
521 or instructional or noninstructional personnel.

522 Section 5. This act shall take effect January 1, 2020.

523

524 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

525 And the title is amended as follows:

526 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
527 and insert:

528 A bill to be entitled  
529 An act relating to charter schools; creating s.  
530 1001.241, F.S.; requiring the Department of Education  
531 to approve credentialing entities for a specified  
532 purpose; requiring credentialing entities to  
533 establish, develop, and administer specified



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534 requirements and processes; requiring credentialing  
535 entities to establish a certification program;  
536 providing requirements for the certification program;  
537 requiring credentialing entities to establish certain  
538 fees; providing requirements for such fees; providing  
539 that applicants who submit applications to a  
540 credentialing entity are subject to a certain  
541 background screening; providing for the ineligibility  
542 of certain applicants; requiring the Department of Law  
543 Enforcement to notify the credentialing entity of an  
544 applicant's background screening results; requiring  
545 credentialing entities to issue certificates of  
546 compliance upon approval of a person's application;  
547 providing for termination of the certification after a  
548 specified time period if the certification is not  
549 renewed; authorizing credentialing entities to suspend  
550 or revoke a certificate of compliance under specified  
551 conditions; requiring charter schools to remove a  
552 charter school principal, charter school governing  
553 board member, or charter school chief financial  
554 officer from his or her position, as applicable, under  
555 specified conditions; requiring charter schools to  
556 notify the credentialing entity of such removal;  
557 providing that certain decisions by a department-  
558 recognized credentialing program are reviewable by the  
559 Department of Education; providing that an aggrieved  
560 person may request an administrative hearing within a  
561 specified timeframe after receiving an adverse  
562 determination after completion of an appeals process



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563 offered by the credentialing program; amending s.  
564 1002.33, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; revising  
565 charter school application deadline requirements;  
566 authorizing certain charter school applicants to open  
567 charter schools before a specified timeframe and after  
568 approval; prohibiting specified individuals and  
569 entities from submitting an application to open a  
570 charter school for specified periods of time; defining  
571 the term "relative" for the purpose of applying the  
572 prohibition; requiring each charter school principal,  
573 governing board member, chief financial officer, or  
574 their equivalent, to meet certain certification  
575 requirements; amending s. 1002.45, F.S.; authorizing  
576 virtual charter schools to provide part-time virtual  
577 instruction for certain students; providing that a  
578 charter school may be an approved provider; amending  
579 s. 1012.32, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference;  
580 revising fingerprint filing requirements for charter  
581 school instructional and noninstructional personnel;  
582 providing that fingerprints and background checks of  
583 such personnel who meet certain requirements are valid  
584 for a specified period of time in all school  
585 districts; providing an effective date.